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THE



TIMES

THURSDAY JANUARY 21 1982

Price twenty pence

Carrington to visit Jerusalem

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, is to visit Jerusalem in the next few weeks. It is expected to be one of the most controversial official visits to Israel in recent years and will take place when Israeli-British relations are at one of their lowest points. Much of the Israeli hostility is aimed at Lord Carrington personally.

Page 5

John Grigg to join the SDP

The writer John Grigg, a former Tory parliamentary candidate, is resigning as leader of his local Conservative Association in Greenwich to join the Social Democrats. He said that "as an unhappy wet Tory" he felt that the local party to which he had belonged all his adult life was passing into the hands of people he could not agree with.

Page 10

Dinner staff win on closed shop

An industrial tribunal ordered Walsall Council to reinstate four school dinner ladies who were dismissed because they refused to join a union. The council admitted the women were unfairly dismissed but said there would be trouble with unions if they got their jobs back.

Page 2

Ministers in Budget talks

Ministers will get their chance to argue for a tax-cutting Budget at a specially-extended Cabinet meeting next Thursday. The Cabinet discussion was agreed after ministers objected to being surprised by Sir Geoffrey Howe's measures last year. This year's Budget is on March 9.

Split in 'Save the whale' lobby

A split has developed in the campaign to save whales. All but one of the leading conservation groups have urged the British Government not to raise the issue of the捕鲸 whale hunt only by Alaskan Eskimos, to enable the United States to take a strong stand on commercial whaling.

Page 4

Bosses' bid for Jetsave rejected

A management buy-back offer of less than £3m, Associated Commercial Corporation for Jetsave, the transatlantic package holidays operator, was rejected yesterday. An increased offer is expected from Mr Reg Fycroft, Jetsave chairman.

Page 15

Youths break in jewellers' shop

Extra police were drafted into south London last night after a gang of about 20 youths smashed the front of a jeweller's shop in Deptford and helped themselves to valuable. One arrest was made. A larger gang carried out a similar raid in Lewisham raid on Tuesday.

Howe gets tough with Japanese

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has told Japan it must reform its economy and let the yen rise on world money markets. He has also called on the Reagan administration to get its budget deficit under control.

Page 15

No rapist will go free, Whitelaw pledges

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Home Secretary is to accept an amendment to his Criminal Justice Bill, which would introduce mandatory custodial sentences for rapists. The Bill received its second reading in the Commons last night and will now be subject to amendment as part of its committee stage.

Mr William Whitelaw said in his opening speech yesterday: "The Lord Chief Justice was abandoned because psychiatrists had advised that the victim would suffer permanent damage if she gave evidence."

The woman said on Tuesday that she was prepared to appear in court.

Mr Fairbairn's reported remarks brought an immediate reaction from MPs who had been expecting a Commons statement yesterday.

Mr Donald Dewar, Opposition spokesman on Scottish affairs, said it was outrageous that the minister should make a statement to a newspaper while drafting a statement to the Commons.

Mr Gordon Wilson, Scottish Nationalist MP for Dundee East, said: "The Solicitor General has abused his office by rushing ahead with premature comment before its statement to MPs".

Mr Jack Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent, last night wrote to the Prime Minister to ask for a comprehensive inquiry into rape law.

He says: "Public anxiety is mounting, as one rape scandal succeeds another. Although ministers have responded with commendable speed to recent events, an ad hoc approach of dealing with him is more appropriate."

The exclusion clause would be designed to deal with mentally abnormal offenders, who would be detained in a special hospital.

The main emphasis of the Bill is on the need for fewer and shorter custodial sentences, but Mr Whitelaw assured MPs that it also carried out the Government's commitment to tougher sentences in appropriate cases involving violent offences causing so much worry at the present time.

The changes in sentence structure proposed in the Bill were designed to ensure that all violent and other dangerous offenders would receive custodial and, if necessary, long sentences.

Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, Scottish Solicitor-General, will make a statement in the Lords and Commons this afternoon on the decision not to prosecute three youths accused of raping a Glasgow woman before repeatedly slashing her with a razor.

A report in yesterday's Glasgow Evening Times newspaper said Mr Fairbairn would endorse the decision.

He is quoted as saying: "The overriding factor which finally decided the matter was the simple, inescapable fact that the prosecution did not have

Procurement's role page 3
Parliamentary report page 3

Up to £55,000 for redundant dons

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

University teachers made redundant will get lump sums equalling two months pay per year of service under a national redundancy scheme, nearly all of which has been accepted by the Government. An announcement is expected in the next few days.

Under the scheme, put forward two months ago by the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, and based on a similar scheme for so-called mobile civil servants, any don under the age of 50, with or without tenure, would receive the lump sum, as well as a deferred pension and another lump sum payable at the age of 65.

A professor or senior lecturer aged 49 earning £15,500 with 24 years service in universities would receive an immediate £55,000, plus a pension on reaching 65 of just over £4,500 and a further sum of nearly £14,000.

A don aged 39 with 14 years service earning £11,000 a year would receive an immediate £21,000, plus a pension at 65 of just under £2,000 and a sum of nearly £6,000.

For dons aged between 50 and 54, the committee suggested that in addition to the pension and lump sum for which they are already eligible under the early retirement scheme, a further lump sum paid, related to their age, length of service, and salary. It also recommended that their pension be increased annually in line with inflation, as already happens from the age of 55.

The UGC has estimated that nearly 6,000 academics will lose their jobs over the next two and a half years because of cuts in the universities' grants and that about half would have to be compulsorily redundancies.

It will not know how accurate those estimates are until the end of this month, the time by which each university has been asked to submit its forecast of job losses.

Leader page 11

Letters: On the Yalta agreement, from Mr Maurice Petherick and Sir Victor Raikes; nuclear defence, from Mr Edward Leigh; old and cold, from Dr J. J. Faser and Dr J. S. Greener.

Features, page 10
John Grigg on why he quit the Tories for the SDP; can the Pope save Poland?; the workers who refuse to be militiamen, by Ronald Butt

Obituary, page 12

Mr Leopold Trapper, Mr F. McD. Turner

Home News	2-4	Letters	11
Overseas	5-7	Lord's cartoon	12
Appointments	8	Obituary	12
Arts	12, 17	Parliament	12
Books	9	Services	2
Business	14-18	Snow reports	20
Church	12	Spott	19-21
Court	12	TV & Radio	25
Crossword	10	Theatre	25
Diary	10	25 Years Ago	20
Events	10	Weather	12
Features	10	Wales	12
Law Report	21		

Page 5



Train guards threaten new strike

Two views of London Bridge at 8.50 am illustrate the effect of the rail strike on commuters. The first (left) was taken on Tuesday when trains were still running, and the second (right) during yesterday's stoppage.

The absence of City-bound traffic is likely to be repeated today and tomorrow when a

strike by train guards is threatened; and next Wednesday morning is planning stoppages.

The guards side with the Aslef drivers. Delays are expected on trains to Kings Cross, parts of the Southern Region, and to Derby and Crewe.

But it appears that although

some commuters were up before dawn to tackle the difficult travelling conditions, most of them chose to leave home no earlier than usual.

The absence of a traffic jam on London Bridge shows how few people were reporting for work at their normal hour.

Heart of the dispute, page 2

Jaruzelski to announce easing of martial law in Poland

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Jan 20

General Wojciech Jaruzelski, head of Poland's ruling Military Council, is expected to announce the easing of some martial law restrictions at the opening of Parliament next Monday. Party sources say that a number of measures are under consideration, including the need to establish some institutionalized form of dialogue between Church and state as a way of phasing our martial law. The Church complained at the meeting about police harassment of former Solidarnosc activists.

It is not clear how far the new policy represents a response to pressure or how far it is simply the next planned stage of martial law—some sugar to sweeten the medicine of food price rises", as one source put it.

However, the draft at the general's speech was prepared before President Reagan declared that United States economic sanctions might be stepped up unless martial law was scrapped in Poland. It also pre-dates the latest letter from the Polish episcopate to General Jaruzelski. This letter is evidently intended to keep the Government under pressure. Indeed, another letter has been prepared for reading out in churches, probably on the first Sunday after the general's speech. Church displeasure is thus to receive a wider audience throughout the country.

There was, however, agreement on the problems faced by economic sanctions. According to a final joint statement:

"Participants in the meeting agreed that economic aid is indispensable for the nation in the extremely hard conditions that the country is facing and said economic sanctions seriously hamper the process of overcoming the crisis and the return to full implementation of the process of renewal."

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There were, however, agreements that some consumers have been reporting their houses larger than necessary loans and using part of the proceeds to fuel their own spending on cars or other consumer goods. The same practice is thought to have been happening with home improvement loans.

There are obvious attractions in doing this because with bank base rates at 144 per cent overdrafts cost from 171 to 191 per cent but the rate for home loans is only 15 per cent.

Building societies deny that in doing this because with bank base rates at 144 per cent overdrafts cost from 171 to 191 per cent but the rate for home loans is only 15 per cent.

Both the BBC and ITV were reluctant to discuss the progress of negotiations for television facilities for the visit.

The Government announced last month that it is to give the UGC £50m in the next financial year to help to meet the cost of redundancies and to pay for new developments. That is in addition to the £20m already set aside by the UGC.

The Government is expected to make a similar additional sum available next year, but the universities have said it is not nearly enough.

The UGC has estimated that nearly 6,000 academics will lose their jobs over the next two and a half years because of cuts in the universities' grants and that about half would have to be compulsorily redundancies.

It will not know how accurate those estimates are until the end of this month, the time by which each university has been asked to submit its forecast of job losses.

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Business	14-18	Snow reports	20
Church	12	Spott	19-21
Court	12	TV & Radio	25
Crossword	10	Theatre	25
Diary	10	25 Years Ago	20
Events	10	Weather	12
Features	10		

Page 5

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Overseas	5-7	Lord's cartoon	12
Appointments	8	Obituary	12
Arts	12, 17	Parliament	12
Books	9	Services	2
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Events	10	Weather	12
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Page 5

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Features	10		

Page 5

Labour alarm over Trotskyist alliance

By Anthony Revins, Political Correspondent

Leading Labour right-wingers are becoming increasingly concerned about the activities and influence of the Socialist Organizer Alliance, a little-known Trotskyist coalition on the hard-left of the party.

Some MPs are so incensed by a Socialist Organizer campaign on the future of the party, that the alliance could yet provide the provocation, or the pretext, for a breakdown in the Bishop's Stortford peace agreement.

The alliance, which consists of supporters of far-left groups such as the International Communist League, Workers' Action, the Workers' Socialist League, Women's Fightback, and the founding Socialist Campaign for a Labour Victory, has come out against the top-level party truce.

Some Labour leaders feel strongly that Socialist Organizer, like Militant, is acting in breach of the party constitution because it maintains a separate membership, structure, policy programme and newspaper.

But they have been forced to accept that Mr Michael Foot and the party's national executive will probably draw the line at the present investigation into Militant.

The alliance, whose newspaper, carries a weekly report of its own far-left policy programme, maintains local groups in most big towns, and has appealed to its readers to become a card-carrying member.

The importance of the alliance is that it brings together a large number of separate sects and, unlike Militant Tendency, it goes out of its way to fight for minority rights.

Militant is judged to have a poor record on women's rights, the rights of ethnic minorities and the gay community. Socialist Organizer has filled that gap on the far-left.

The alliance has instigated the formation of the National Left Wing Youth Movement, with its own newspaper, to challenge Militant's pre-eminent role in the Labour Party Young Socialists movement.

It has also established informal links with the non-Trotskyist London Labour Tendency, which made headlines last year with Mr Peter Tatchell's views on extra-parliamentary activity.

A recent Socialist Organizer attack on Mr Foot's counter-attack on Mr Tatchell says bluntly: "Foot lies to himself

and to the Labour movement about the present condition of parliamentary democracy.

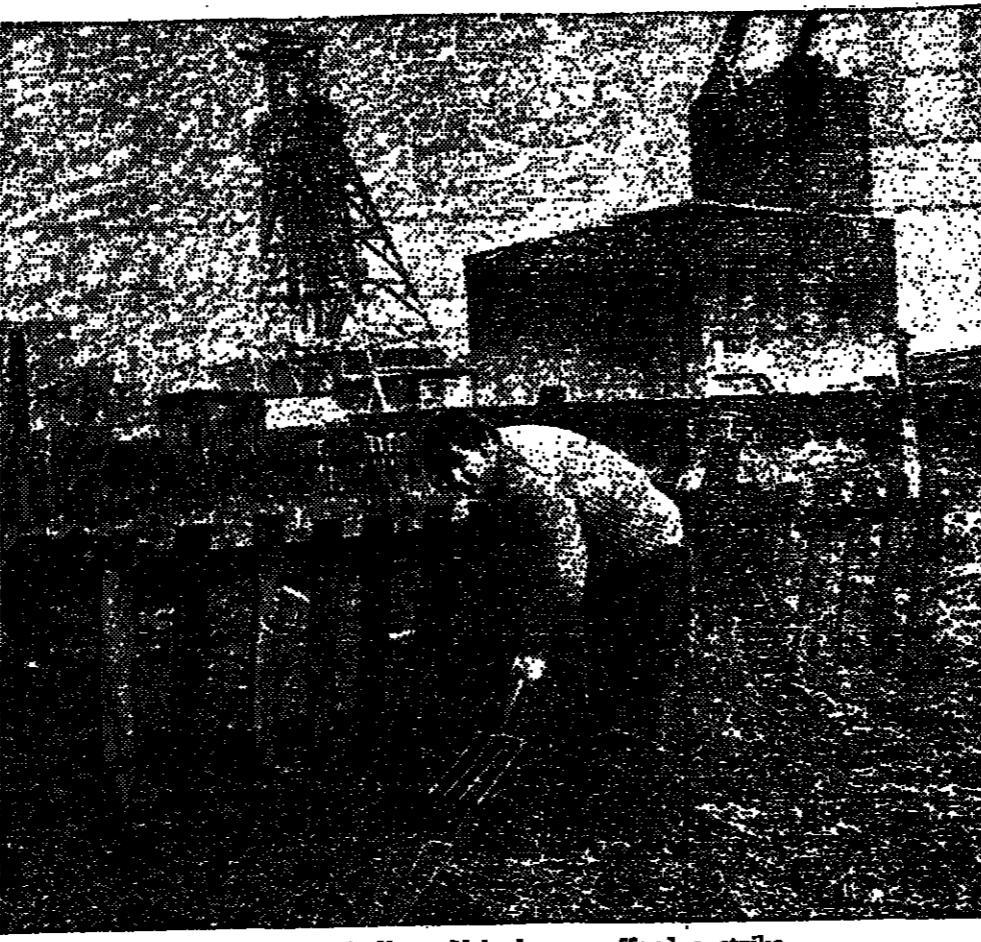
"For Foot, radical, direct action is not superseded by Parliament. The Labour movement must bow down to Parliament." But the alliance states that the workers have every right to resist, to make it impossible for the government to govern, and bring it down.

Mr John Bloxam, the alliance secretary, says in the latest edition of the Organizer's weekly newspaper that Labour's Bennites have given up the fight against the right.

He says they would appear to have accepted the basic argument which has crippled the left again and again: that Labour must sink its differences to win elections, and that therefore, since the right-wing won't give ground on essentials, the left must.

And at the launch meeting of yet another left grouping, Labour Liaison 82, this coming Saturday, the Socialist Organizer will argue that the fight must be maintained on all fronts: to recapture complete

Mr Bloxam states: "The existing leadership does not fight for party policies, and must be replaced.



Trevor Keeling: Nobody can afford a strike.

What miners think: Nottinghamshire

'We're not a battering ram'

By Nicholas Timmins

In the isolated village of Newstead, Nottinghamshire, with its battered mineheads, corrugated miners' terraces, towns dominated by the pit, there are few signs of the X-registrations cars and the mortgages that Sidcup Vincent, the Lancashire miners' president, said affected the miners' ability to strike. But there is still a strong feeling that the miners cannot afford a strike.

Although some at the Newstead colliery, where 1,200 miners produce 750,000 tons a year from the 127-year-old pit, insist the vote is evenly split, there seems little doubt that the traditionally moderate Nottinghamshire miners have voted against a strike.

"The time isn't right," said Mr Alan Pickering, aged 46, a miner and a face worker at Newstead for the past 27 years.

Sitting in a bus with 20 face workers just off the day shift, almost all of whom said they voted against the executive, he said: "I voted for a strike in 1972 and 1974 and I voted for Arthur Scargill because he's the best man for the job whether he's left or right. But it's up to us to decide what we want to do. We are not going to get a deal more from a strike, not in this climate". The offer, he said, was not great.

But it's better than a kick in the eye and it's the highest any union has had."

Several said they could not afford a strike.

Others said there was political motivation behind the ballot. "Some of the men thought

they were using us as a battering ram to get Maggie out," one said. "I would rather have the money in the pocket than be waiting round the street wondering what to do next."

If some of the face workers, who take home between £100 and £110 a week feel they cannot

afford a strike, the same goes for Trevor Keeling, aged 79, a surface worker at the pit baths who takes home about £70. With a daughter aged nine months, a council house and a spell of unemployment three years ago before he returned to Newstead, he said: "I do not think anybody can afford a strike to be honest."

"If there was a strike, the pit would shut itself. You don't vote for money and not have a job." Managing on the money was a struggle, he said, but a strike would have cost more than it gained.

Those who voted for the executive insisted that the offer would have been improved without a strike. They believed the pre-pol article by Mr Joseph Gormley, rapidly pinned up by the management at some pits, had its effect.

"It was ever talking point," said Brian Walker, the branch secretary. "People here have taken notice. It frightened them. It's indefensible when a president does that."

"That Joe Gormley," said a burly under-ground repair man at the colliery, gesturing towards a 200 foot high lighting pylon at the pit, "he wants hanging on that pylon by the longer rope you can find. A lot of people listen to him. He should have kept his mouth shut, he is retiring."

He voted for the miners' executive recommendation that it should be given power to call industrial action if necessary, but conceded that Mr Gormley's intervention probably did not alter the way the ballot has gone at Newstead.

He said: "We sought the use of a computer in 1977 and we were told it would take two years to convert the information we had to the computer, and in the police service in the country there was no computer at about £15m."

It could be argued that the circulation gain from bingo has been greater because, without bingo, circulation might have been expected to fall, given the long-term trend and the effects of the recession. On the other hand, had it not been for the intensive competition generated by the bingo war, newspapers might have increased their cover prices more to take account of increases in costs.

The Daily Star, which began bingo first in the regions early in 1981, held on to its initial circulation gain and increased by 474,000 to 1,500,000. The circulation of The Sun, which began bingo in June went up by 396,000 to 4,100,000. However, both the Daily Star and The Sun held their prices at £2. The Daily Mirror, which increased its price by 2p to 14p in September, suffered a loss of 165,000 in circulation to 3,600,000 on the half year. The Daily Express and the Daily Mail, which increased their prices by 3p to 15p in July, showed falls of 68,000 to 2,100,000 and 61,000 to 1,900,000 respectively.

Overall, the popular Sunday newspaper, which has not changed their prices, have suffered a loss of 140,000 to 14,600,000 in combined circulation.

The biggest loser has been the Sunday People, down 163,000 to 3,600,000.

The national "quality" newspapers have lost 52,000 in circulation to 2,200,000. The bigest loser has been The Daily Telegraph, whose circulation fell by 91,000 to 1,300,000, following an increase of 3p to 18p in the cover price last August. The Times increased its circulation by 19,000 to 298,000 and The Guardian by 18,000 to 373,000. Despite a price increase of 5p to 30p in August the Financial Times put on 2,000 to 188,000, helped by an extensive television advertising campaign.

Among the "quality" Sunday newspapers, the circulation of The Observer has fallen by 42,000 to 87,000, that of The Sunday Telegraph by 85,000 to 917,000 and that of The Sunday Times by 66,000 to 1,400,000.

Science report

Vitamin E may save sight of babies

By Our Medical Correspondent

Very small premature babies commonly have immature lungs and need to be in an incubator with extra oxygen if they are to survive. Without enough oxygen the baby's brain may suffer irreparable damage. Unfortunately, if the paediatrician gives too high a concentration of oxygen another complication may develop - damage to the blood vessels in the eyes, a condition called retrolental fibroplasia, which if severe can cause permanent blindness.

The connection between excess oxygen and retrolental fibroplasia has not been recognised for 30 years but it has become more important recently as improvements in neonatal medicine have led to the survival of more of the smallest babies, in whom the risk of retrolental fibroplasia is greatest.

Despite a number of research studies no level of oxygen can be recommended. A partial solution may, however, be found in vitamin E.

Early trials of treatment with vitamin E gave some what inconclusive results, but some more encouraging figures have emerged from a project at the Baylor College of Medicine in Texas. One hundred and one premature babies weighing under 1,500g (3.3 lb) were divided into two groups. Those given vitamin E had substantially less severe retrolental fibroplasia than the controls and none of the treated babies developed the most severe grade three, damage to their eyes.

The committee criticized the Home Secretary for not making available to it the full report of Mr Lawrence Byford, HM Inspector of Constabulary, and called for a meeting to be attended by Mr Byford and Sir James Crane, HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary.

Mr Gregory said he had not lost the confidence of the public in West Yorkshire. The people had appreciated the difficulties at the time of the Ripper investigation. "The super policeman who can make the right decision at the right time has not been born."

The committee adopted a mildly belligerent attitude when considering the statement by Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, in the Commons on Tuesday on the shortcomings of the West Yorkshire police during the Ripper hunt.

The committee criticized the Home Secretary for not making available to it the full report of Mr Lawrence Byford, HM Inspector of Constabulary, and called for a meeting to be attended by Mr Byford and Sir James Crane, HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary.

Mr Gregory said he had not seen the report but knew of the two main points of criticism, one about tapes, thought at one stage to have been sent to the Ripper, and the other about the compilation and collection of information.

He said: "We sought the use of a computer in 1977 and we were told it would take two years to convert the information we had to the computer, and in the police service in the country there was no computer at about £15m."

It could be argued that the circulation gain from bingo has been greater because, without bingo, circulation might have been expected to fall, given the long-term trend and the effects of the recession. On the other hand, had it not been for the intensive competition generated by the bingo war, newspapers might have increased their cover prices more to take account of increases in costs.

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TALKS PLEDGED

Controls for vetting the type of jobs senior police officers may take after they leave the police force are to be discussed by Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, with chief constables after the appointment of a senior officer at Scotland Yard to an executive position in the reconstructed Playboy gambling empire.

Earlier this month Mr Peter Neivens, deputy assistant commissioner in charge of publicity, retired to join Trident Television, which has bought Playboy's casinos.

Overseas sell-in' prices

Austria 50c; Bahrain BD 0.50; Belgium Frs 100; Canada Frs 100; Cyprus 500 mils; Finland Mk 7.00; France Frs 7.00; Holland Gfl 3.25; Iran Rls 33; Iraq LD 1.00; Jordan Dhs 0.50; Kuwait 50; Libya 1.00; Lebanon Lls 4.00; Luxembourg 100; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 7.50; Oman 5c; Qatar QR 7.00; Saudi Arabia Sr 4.50; Singapore 25.00; Spain Pes 3.00; Sweden Kr 10; Switzerland Frs 3.00; Syria Lls 50; Tunisia Dn 1.00; Yugoslavia Dn 50.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Closed shop victory for women

By Frances Gibb

A leading libel lawyer yesterday won the right in the Court of Appeal to continue to act for clients he used to represent when with his former firm.

Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, sitting with Lord Justice Kerr and Lord Justice May, ruled that it would be contrary to public policy if a client could not have the solicitor of his choice.

He allowed an appeal by Mr Peter Carter-Ruck, formerly a senior partner with Oswald Hickson, Collier and Co, against a High Court order made by Mr Justice Jupp in November, that he could not continue to act for the firm's clients, except for those he introduced.

In particular, Lord Denning granted Mr Carter-Ruck the right to continue to act for one client at the centre of the dispute, a Lloyd's legal insurance syndicate called the Frank Barber Syndicate, which Mr Carter-Ruck had represented for some 40 years.

Yesterday's ruling was the latest round in a dispute which has torn Oswald Hickson, Collier and Co, for some four

Lawyer wins tussle to keep clients

By Frances Gibb

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New ITV shows go to top

Let There Be Love, starring Paul Eddington of Yes Minister (Thames, Monday) was hard on its heels with 15,500,000. The same company's Wish You Were Here at 7 pm, which was not planning to air, did well with an audience of 13,450,000 against the repeat and re-scheduled Dr Who, which could draw no more than 9,120,000.

Of the other BBC 1 hopefuls, only a repeat could be counted a success. Last of the Summer Wine drew 14,200,000 people, to make it the seventeenth most-viewed show. But Wildlife on One did manage 12,500,000 on Thursday, against independent television's Ryan's Daughter, which could do no better than a million more.

It benefited from preceding The Gentle Touch (London Weekend), which rose to the number four position, with 18,120,000 viewers.

BL dealers lead world with Viewdata link.

Now that BL Cars have installed the world's first private nationwide Viewdata service in BL showrooms, prospective buyers can check on availability of any car in seconds.

With the help of BL's massive central computer complex, a TV screen will give the location of the

BL Fighting back

systems.

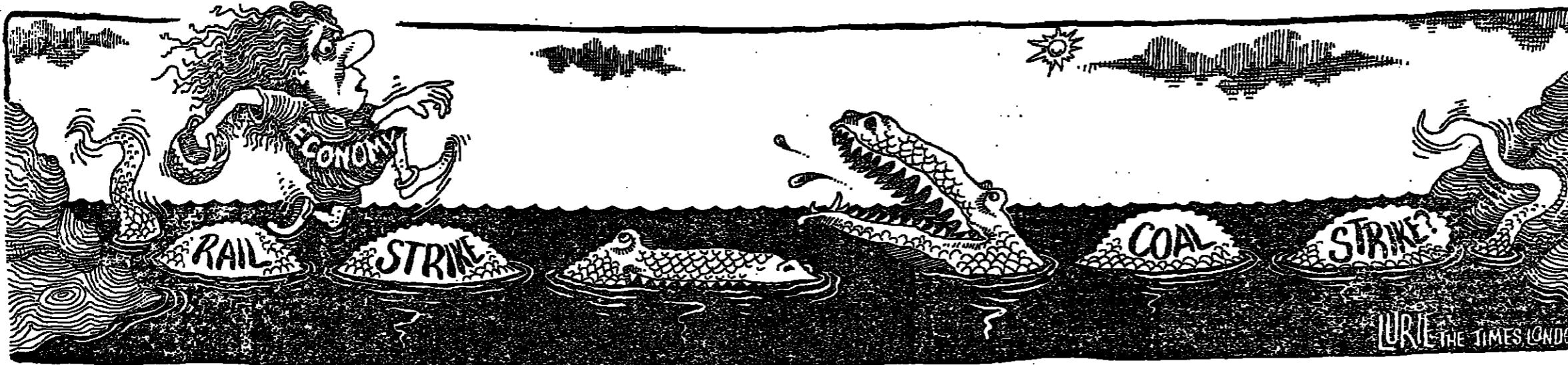
Over half of BL Cars' distributors and main dealers now have this highly sophisticated stock locator system installed as part of a drive to improve customer services.

Viewdata is simpler and cheaper to use than conventional computer

Scargill blames 'unholy alliance'

By Lucy Hodges

Mr Arthur Scargill, president-elect of the National Union of Mineworkers, yesterday scathingly suggested that Mr Joseph Gormley, the outgoing president, might be elevated to the peerage for his part in opposing strike action.



Puzzle of London rate rebates

By David Walker

Fewer than 15,000 London households and firms have asked for a refund of the supplementary rate levied in the autumn to pay for the Greater London Council's "Fares Fair" cheap travel policy.

An estimated 600,000 of Greater London's 3.2 million rate paying houses and companies had paid some of the levy before the Court of Appeal declared it illegal in November. None will get interest and few will get a cash refund because most borough councils intend to credit ratepayers' ordinary accounts.

However, some councils are preparing to repay the supplementary rates whether ratepayers ask or not. For example, 17,000 people in the borough of Barnet who paid the rate will get the money back in a week or so. They

will get a cash refund or have their February rates instalments adjusted. Council tenants will have their combined rent and rates payments temporarily reduced.

If the Prime Minister, who maintains a home in Flood Street, had paid the supplementary rate, she would have to ask Kensington and Chelsea borough council for a refund, but so far about only a hundred requests have been made.

Most boroughs have rescinded their decision to levy the supplementary rate as a legal formality, but consider the costs of refunding cash to be too high and prefer crediting ratepayers.

In the smaller London boroughs, calculations are complicated by part of the supplementary rate which was to pay for extra spending by the Inner London Education Authority.

be unable to repay any money.

Mr John Marlowe, director of finance in Camden, explained that much as he would like a settlement, he cannot by law repay the 500 local ratepayers who have asked for a refund until the council rescinds the old supplementary rate and decides on a new one.

Mr Marlowe said the idea that supplementary rate payers should get interest was misconceived. The cost of calculating interest was high, and so would impose a burden on all ratepayers. He said it was not in their interest and was therefore probably illegal.

□ Somerset County Council's rates are to increase in 1982-83 by only 6.9 per cent which is likely to be one of the lowest rises in the country.

Import of whales to be curbed

By David Nicholson-Lord

The Government seems certain to tighten its restrictions on the import of dolphins and killer whales for oceansaria after the death of a whale last month of a whale newly shipped from Iceland.

The whale, one of three brought to a dolphinarium at Clacton Pier, Essex, apparently suffered a ruptured kidney after being buried by its companions.

But scientists from the Nature Conservancy Council believe lack of space in the pool may have been partly responsible and they are understood to have rejected an application by Clacton to import a fourth whale as a replacement.

Mr Tom King, the Minister of State for the Environment, is being recommended to lay down stricter guidelines for the granting of import licences. Those are thought to cover standards of transport and accommodation. They are likely to affect the operations of many smaller oceansaria, particularly if they are applied to animals already in Britain.

"In my view Lord Scarman has not been able to provide a satisfactory answer to the most important question that he asked: 'How do the police in the inner city deal with a very high level of street crime, while at the same time retaining the support of all

the community?'

Mr Jardine, speaking in Guildford, Surrey, said that many old people were afraid to go out in the areas in which they were born and bred and spent the whole of their lives.

A police commander had to look for measures to bring down short-term results when faced with a surge of muggings. It would not be stopped by doubling the number of officers sent round to schools to talk to children. Nor would public appeals to the muggers work.

The only way was to cut dramatically the odds against a mugger being caught by making sure the police were on the streets.

But he agreed with Lord Scarman that police training should be improved.

Mr Jardine wants probationer police officers to have longer and better training. "We are not going to be fobbed off with a couple of extra weeks for lectures on how to be polite to the public, the meaning of the language of the exact significance of a Rastafarian's dreadlocks."

Dr Charles St Hill said he had internal injuries and several fractures when he examined Mr Moore's body.

Mr Roy Barter, the coroner, adjourned the hearing, saying that two policemen, Keith Wilkinson and James Keenan, had been committed for trial at the city's Crown Court, accused of unlawful killing.

Police union chief criticizes Scarman

by Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Violent crime continues to increase on Merseyside according to details Mr Kenneth Oxford, the chief Constable, will present to the county police committee next Tuesday (Our Liverpool correspondent writes).

He spoke of an upside-down world" in which Lord Scarman was persuaded to believe that action against mugging was a probable cause and Commander Brian Fairbairn, the officer in charge locally, had felt it necessary to apologize for high-profile policing.

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Incidents at the seaquarium, it says, include two whales in an exposed pool dying of frostbite.

The Clacton case has been raised in a Commons question by Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour's science spokesman, who said yesterday that the dimensions of the pool housing the three animals appeared totally inadequate. Mr David Howe, director of Clacton Pier, declined to comment.

Emrys Oliver Gribble, aged 69, of Hest Trelai, Ely, Cardiff, was convicted on his own confession at Cardiff Crown Court on November 5, 1980, of theft and was jailed for nine months.

Mr John Thorneycroft-Woodgate, of Heighton Street, Firle, near Lewes, East Sussex, was found guilty of breaches of the solicitors' accounts rules and

of using clients' money for his own purpose.

Matthew Gibb, of Grays Inn Square, London, was found guilty of using clients' money for his own purposes and for other clients' purposes. Each has 14 days in which to lodge notice of appeal.

Mr Philip Altman, of Northwood Hall, Hornsey Lane, London, is to have his name restored to the roll of solicitors. In November 1975

Mr Roy Barter, the coroner, adjourned the hearing, saying that two policemen, Keith Wilkinson and James Keenan, had been committed for trial at the city's Crown Court, accused of unlawful killing.

Solicitors face ban

Three solicitors were ordered by the Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal in London yesterday to be struck off for unbefitting conduct.

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NEWS IN
SUMMARYmiddle ban
Manilow
concertsBarry Manilow
yesterday from
the ritual of
singer at the end
of the concert
council's environ-
ment committee
are that because
risk it must take
stop people taking
to the auditorium.
The spokesman for the
National Transportation Safety
Board said divers re-
covered the flight data re-
corder and cockpit voice
recorder from the river
shortly after resuming the
recovery operations. The
flight recorders are partic-
ularly valuable in pinpointing
the cause of the crash.Salvage teams had hoped to
recover the recorder when
the tail section of the aircraft
was lifted but they appear to
have slipped back into the
river as the wreckage was
raised. Seventy-eight people
died in the crash.**Gaddafi's secret
Algiers mission**

Algiers. — Colonel Gaddafi and President Chadli of Algeria continued their talks on the third day of the Libyan leader's unexpected visit here.

The details have been kept secret but an Algerian official source said that Colonel Gaddafi was emphasizing the need to "close Arab ranks" against Israel and the United States. There was no confirmation of a claim by the Libyan news agency that the two leaders had reached agreement on important preliminary steps to union between the neighbouring countries.

**Iran bans women
from ski slopes**

Teheran. — Women have been forced off the ski slopes at Dizin, Iran's most popular winter resort, after an Islamic clergyman said their presence was leading to un-Islamic and unscrupulous activity.

Local sources said the district's revolutionary prosecutor had been alarmed at the tight clothes worn by women skiers.

250th oil death

Madrid. — A 12-year-old girl became the 250th person to die from consuming toxic cooking oil in Spain since last May. More than 400 other victims are still in hospital.

**NEWS IN
SUMMARY****Crash jet's
black
box found**

Washington. — The chance of discovering the cause of the crash of the Air Florida jet in Washington a week ago rests as recovery teams brought the aircraft's "black box" recorders from the icy river Potomac. (Nicholas Hirst writes).

A spokesman for the National Transportation Safety Board said divers recovered the flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder from the river shortly after resuming the recovery operations. The flight recorders are particularly valuable in pinpointing the cause of the crash.

Salvage teams had hoped to recover the recorder when the tail section of the aircraft was lifted but they appear to have slipped back into the river as the wreckage was raised. Seventy-eight people died in the crash.

The Socialist absolute majority in the assembly there is no risk of that.

It is the first time the Socialist Government has used this procedure. M Raymond Barre, when he was Prime Minister, resorted to it several times, notably at the end of 1979, to secure the passage of the budget.

The Socialists declared at the time that the use of the blocked vote was contrary to the spirit of the constitution. But to avoid the risk of delay and obstruction by the opposition, and to reduce to a minimum the period of uncertainty before the nationalization takes effect, they have resigned themselves to using it now, some socialist leaders even suggested that the Government should carry out the nationalization by decree.

As it is, the Government is being compelled to carry out the nationalization of banks, as it was of industrial firms, against Government Bills

**Paris to force
through bank
nationalization**

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Jan. 20

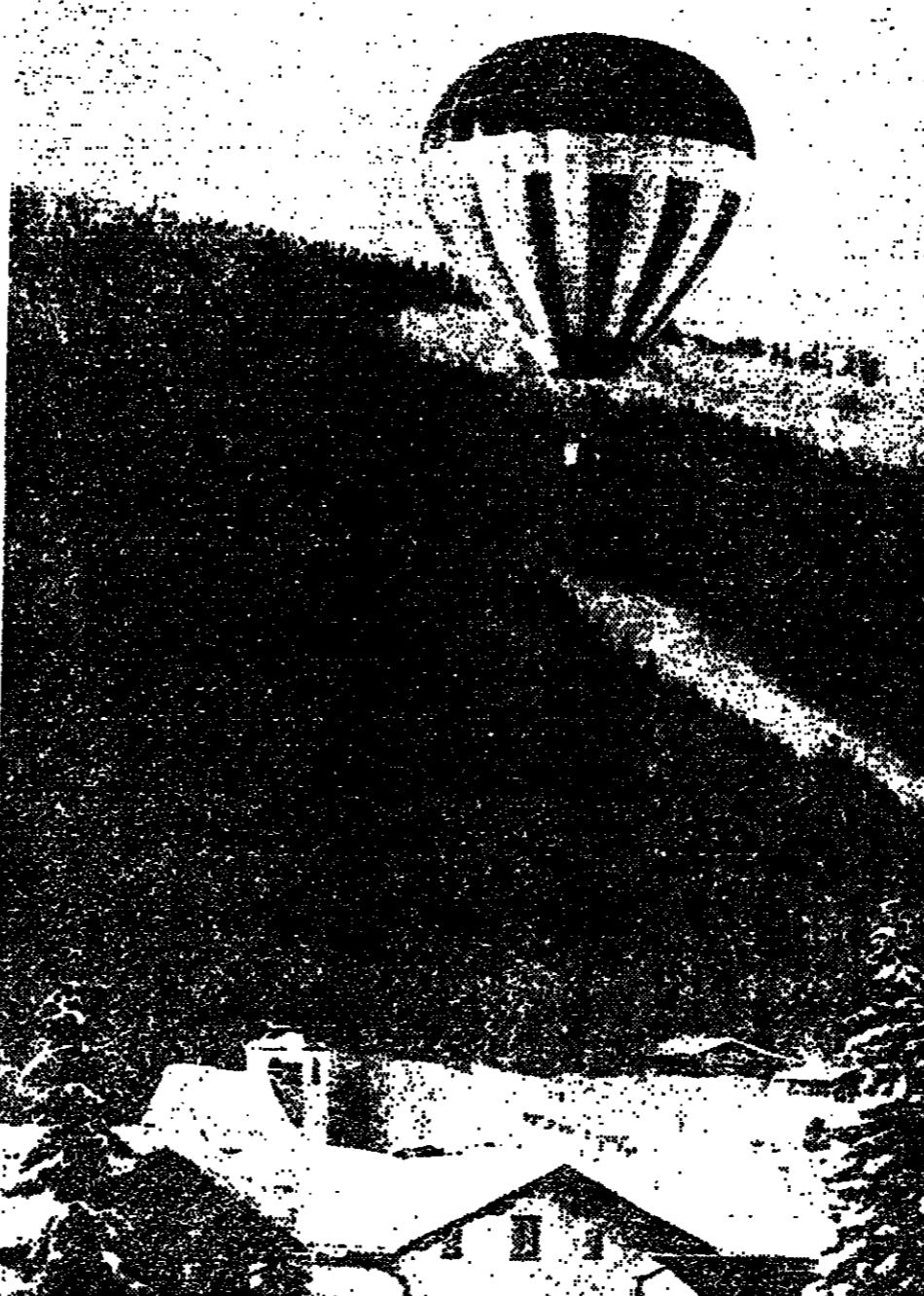
The socialists will resort to the blocked vote procedure, which they frequently condemned when it was used by conservative governments in the past, to get the new nationalization through the French parliament in record time.

Three days after the Constitutional Council's decision that the original Bill was unconstitutional, the Cabinet today approved the new draft and decided to make it a matter of confidence. This means it will be regarded as adopted without a vote unless a motion of censure is carried against it. With the present Socialist absolute majority in the assembly there is no risk of that.

This means that most of the shareholders will get more than under the previous proposals, but some will receive less. The cost to the government and therefore to the taxpayer will be some 8,000m francs (£730m).

M Laurent Fabius, the Budget Minister, suggested yesterday that the increased cost should be financed by the rich, through a raising of the wealth tax or companies tax. The Socialist and Communist parties and the trades unions agree, but to do this would hardly encourage employers to invest and the Government is in something of a cleft stick.

This is likely to lead the left to step up its attacks against the Constitutional Council, which it regards as a reactionary institution that has gone against the popular will. In fact, since the left took office the council has rejected a number of actions against Government Bills



Hot pursuit: A French contender in the hot-air balloon world championships hanging above the Austrian alpine village of Filzmoos. The winner must travel the greatest distance across the Alps.

Drug squad chief accused over undercover deals

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Jan 20

The founder, leader and inspiration of Belgium's elite anti-drug squad (BND), Commandant Léon François, went on trial in Brussels this week on charges connected with the drugs trade.

There are 14 other names on the charge sheet—including that of an agent of the American Drugs Enforcement Administration and three other BND officers.

Also on trial is the method of fighting drugs trade in Belgium as it has been created by Commandant François over the past decade. In the early 1970's he was

sent to the United States to study methods of tackling the narcotics trade. His training taught him that it was the accepted practice in America for drugs enforcement officers to work undercover, buying and selling narcotics in order to be able to trace networks to their source.

This was contrary to Belgian Law, but Commandant François was able to convince his superiors that it was the only way in which to produce results. Accordingly, a blind eye was initially turned on his small squad's

activities. Working undercover they were allowed to drive cars with false number plates and buy themselves into the confidence of the underworld.

The squad became quickly effective. In 1975 Commandant François began tracing the way drugs came into Europe through American Air Force bases. The BND found a good informer, and Commandant François was able to "borrow" 1.6m Belgian francs (£191,500) through the police in order to buy into a cocaine drug ring.

From then on things began to go wrong. The drugs were bought and then found to be of poor quality. The potential buyer withdrew and the BND found itself having to try to recoup the money. A first attempt to sell the poor quality drug to coloured American servicemen failed.

Commandant François took the initiative to have the drug purified and mixed with an analgesic powder in order to sell it in Holland.

This much of the evidence

has been admitted by Commandant François, who has told the court that he was merely following methods used in the United States to break drug rings. The prosecution has alleged, however, that his real aim was to pocket the money. He is also alleged to have appropriated two kilograms (4.4lb) of cocaine used to help to train police dogs to sniff out drugs. This was added to the purified quantity and offered for sale to two Dutchmen with whom contact was established in Breda. The Dutchmen turned out to be undercover agents for the Dutch narcotics squad.

Arrigo Levi: A Personal View**Berlinguer party at turning point**

There is no doubt that the new official statements by the Italian Communist Party on the Polish crisis and the Soviet model represent a turning point in the history of the party, and in Italian history.

They amount to an "ex-communication" of the Soviet Communist Party, they declare that it has exhausted its propelling force and indicate that its "serious pressures" and "unacceptable interferences" are the main reasons for the Polish tragedy and for all the "dramatic recurring crises" in Eastern Europe.

This analysis is accompanied by a total ideological rejection of the Soviet model and by a categorical statement that democracy is necessary for socialism, which might have been signed by Kari Kautski.

Some of the oldest of the Italian Communists Party (PCI) now recognize that the split caused by the Communists in the Italian Socialists Party in 1921 was a fatal mistake; and that the great social-democratic leader of the time, Filippo Turati, was right when he condemned the split and said that the Communists would, one day, recognize their error.

These are weighty words, though obviously they have come very late. The returning prodigal son is always met by a warm reception. In this particular case, as a matter of fact, the reception by Italy's democratic parties has been mixed.

Everybody has welcomed these resolutions, and the fact that they were reached through an open debate in the party before being approved by its central committee with the sole opposition of Signor Arnaldo Cossutta.

The Christian Democrats, through their leader Signor Claudio Piccoli, have gone as far as admitting that after this turning point in the history of the PCI, the Communist problem appears in a new light. This admission implies that the possibility of government cooperation with the Communists could again be considered by the Christian Democrats indeed, the "Communist problem" should be a central issue in the Christian Democratic Party's conference to be held next April.

But these views are not universal. The Socialist leaders have been very critical of the fact that the PCI, while rejecting the Soviet model, still condemns in harsh terms the social democratic experience in the West, while obscurely suggesting that a new third way must be found. The Socialists reply: there is no third way, the lack of a clear Western choice by the PCI still reveals many ambiguities and dangers.

There will be many more such debates between the PCI and the other parties. Indeed, it is important that the Communists should be kept under constant pressure, considering the strong resistance against the announced changes in the party line by a considerable portion of the Communist rank and file. A counter-pressure from outside the party is necessary and useful.

But it seems to me that the real problem in the near future will not be that of determining correctly, day by day, the path of progress towards the Western home. I believe that what has happened will by itself already remove many of the ideological obstacles that have prevented the PCI from being accepted as a potential government partner by the other parties, and by Italy's allies.

From now on, Signor Enrico Berlinguer, the Communist leader, will seriously challenge the attempt of Signor Bettino Craxi, the Socialist leader, to become the arbiter of Italian politics.

At present, in the middle of a serious East-West crisis, there remain many obstacles which make it impossible for the PCI to join a government coalition. The PCI opposes any retaliation against the Soviet Union or Poland or any limitation of the West's economic assistance to Poland; it also opposes Nato's Euromissiles. If the PCI had been a member of a government coalition right now a government crisis might have been unavoidable.

But while many responsible people consider that the Communist presence in a government coalition now would be a very bad thing and would weaken the West (and I share this view), the conditions might change,

New Star cuts Bogey down to size.

The new Minolta EP 530R is truly a star. A full size A3 shot of Bogey was cut down to A5 size, with no image cut off whatsoever.

Pretty dramatic stuff for a table top copier.

But being able to give you full size and reduction, is only the beginning.

The EP 530R is a plain paper copier, which means no special paper is needed. You can use your own headed paper, copy on film as well as being able to copy on both sides. The EP 530R can be fully integrated with the Minolta Document Feeder and Sorter, to give you automatic alignment, collating as well as high speed sorting.

All that plus Minolta's unique Micro-Toning System, which produces such look-alike copies, it would take a private eye like Bogey to tell the difference.

So, if you want a star performer in your company the new Minolta EP 530R will certainly improve your image.



NEWS IN SUMMARY

Ecologists lose airport struggle

Bonn.—The ecologists have failed to prevent the building of a third runway at Frankfurt international airport with the rejection by the Hesse High Court of a petition for a *Land* referendum (Patricia Clough writes).

The decision was the latest and possible decisive blow to the ecologists and local inhabitants in their 15-year legal, political and often physical battle to preserve the last forest in the area.

The court upheld the view of the Hesse Government that the referendum petition was directed at civil aviation laws which were not the responsibility of the *Land* Government. The consortium building the runway said construction, held up pending a decision would continue as soon as possible.

Admiral jailed in Argentina



Buenos Aires.—Retired Admiral Emilio Massera, a former junta member left for the navy garrison in Azul to serve a ten-day sentence imposed on him by the Navy high command.

A Navy source said last night that the Admiral had been arrested as a result of his demands that the government make public a list of people who had disappeared in the "dirty war" against left-wing terrorism. It was his second arrest for criticizing the junta.

Concorde flights cut

Paris.—The French Government has asked Air France to withdraw its Concorde services to Rio de Janeiro and to Caracas, by April 1.

The airline said the Concord service would have 11 flights a week to New York, of which two would continue to Washington and two to Mexico. On average, only 47 per cent of seats on Concord flights from Paris to Rio de Janeiro had been used last year compared with 68.3 per cent in 1979. The occupancy rate on flights to Caracas, dropped to 36.1 per cent last year.

French viewers dissatisfied

Paris.—Sixty-eight per cent of French viewers are dissatisfied with their television programmes, according to a Sofres poll published in *Le Parisien Libéré*. By comparison with two years ago, the number of satisfied ones has dropped by half.

The results make rather disappointing reading for the Socialists whose ambition is to raise the cultural standards of television. Forty-five per cent are in favour of a fourth private channel, an idea which is anathema to the left.

President Zia meets the Pope

Rome.—President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan, was received in audience for half an hour by the Pope. It is taken for granted that he described the condition of the 2.5 million Afghan refugees in Pakistan (Peter Nichols writes).

The Pope will presumably have called for information on human rights in Pakistan. The situation has recently been the subject of a highly critical report by Amnesty International.

Canada Indians appeal delayed

The Appeal Court in London has reserved judgment on an appeal by the Indian Association of Alberta against the High Court's rejection of their claim that the British Government is still bound by its eighteenth and nineteenth century obligations.

The Indians began their legal action after Britain and Canada agreed that any obligations owed to them now rested with the Ottawa Government. They claim that the royal Proclamation of 1763 was still active and was separate from the Confederation Act.

Top KGB man

Moscow.—Mr Semion Tsvigun, the second most powerful man in the KGB, the Soviet security police, has died. Soviet Television reported. He was 64. He was also an Army General.

Spanish police seize five tons of arms

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, Jan 20

Spanish police today made their biggest arms find when they seized a five-ton cache in a pre-dawn raid on a farmhouse near the Basque city of Bilbao.

The Interior Ministry described it as the main arsenal of the political-military wing of the separatist movement ETA (Basque Homeland and Liberty). The action, carried out by specially trained anti-terrorist squads, was the second serious blow against ETA in three days. Police moved into the northern mountain village of Trasmont last Sunday under cover of darkness and rescued Dr. Julio Iglesias, the kidnapped father of the millionaire singer, from ETA-PM (political military).

Today's swoop was said to have been carried out on the basis of information gained from one or more of the four suspects captured last Sunday at the house where Dr Iglesias was held.

The arms included half a ton of plastic explosives, gunpowder, Soviet-made rocket launchers, mortars, sub-machine guns, automatic rifles, pistols and ammunition. The Arsenal was stored in a room under a terrace in back of the house,

A resurgence in neo-Nazi violence

Sad legacy of the Holocaust

From Patricia Clough Bonn, Jan 20

In the ornate villa by Berlin's Wannsee where 40 years ago Nazi leaders agreed on the "final solution to the Jewish problem" German Jews and gentiles today remembered the Holocaust.

Adolf Eichmann, who masterminded the plan, and Reinhard Heydrich, the security chief who was to carry it out, outlined to four state secretaries and a number of high government officials their arrangements to deport and "deal with" 11 million Jews. The Nazis could not bring themselves to use the words "kill", "gas", or "exterminate".

At his trial in Jerusalem yesterday Eichmann recalled: "All participants were highly satisfied and happily agreed to participate... The whole business lasted less than an hour and a half." The ready agreement of the others had meant that he like Pilate could wash my hands in innocence".

While Herr Richard von Weizsaecker, Chief Burgomaster of West Berlin, Herr Heinz Galinski, the head of the city's Jewish community, and other dignitaries were honouring Eichmann's six million victims, West Berlin police were continuing their search for the bombers who attacked a Jewish restaurant last Friday, killing a baby girl and injuring 24.

They suspect it was the work of a Palestinian group but do not exclude the possibility that it was the work of German neo-Nazis out to mark the anniversary in their own way.

Forty years after the holocaust, Germany still has its Jews and, to an increasingly alarming extent, its neo-Nazis. The Jews—30,000 in the West and 20,000 in the East—are only a tiny fraction of the two million in Germany before the war.

The security services estimate that the membership of the numerous, mostly tiny neo-Nazi groups rose steeply in 1981 to nearly 20,000.

Worse, increasing numbers are turning to terrorism and in 1980 alone 20 people were killed and 220 injured in bomb attacks and murders.

Most of their violence, however, is directed against foreign immigrants rather than the Jews.

The number of right-wing extremists is probably not bigger than in other western countries, and probably smaller than in the United States, but neo-Nazism among the people who murdered the Jews and started the second World War inevitably has a different dimension.

The immense weight of the past is also felt intensely by the Jews. Before the Nazi era no one was more passionately patriotic than the Jews, they were proverbially more German than the Germans.

Now the relationship to their homeland is often complex. Very few now are original German Jews. Most came from Eastern Europe and even placed themselves as refugees and stayed either by chance or convenience, using the Government's compensation money to make a new start.

Some, however, are German survivors who emigrated to Israel but found they needed their native land and language, no matter how terrible the memories.

Two years ago the Germans' psychological block was broken by the television film *Holocaust*. Many of the more sensitive, intellectual Jews complain of a subconscious anti-Semitism, ignorance and an often appalling insensitivity towards Jewish feelings.

Obituary, page 12



Line of duty: Polish soldiers with historical caps and fixed bayonets celebrating the anniversary of the liberation of Warsaw in the city's Victory Square. It was the first public ceremony in Warsaw since martial law.

Banks tell Russia: Help Poles pay debts

From Peter Norman, Brussels, Jan 20

West German banks have made it clear that they will grant the Soviet Union new credits only if it shows a willingness to help Poland pay its debts.

Harald Künnen, the president of the Association of West German Banks, drew a link between the two issues this evening in a West German television broadcast.

He said the Soviet Union's request for a DM300m (£70m) loan from its German bankers to help finance the Siberian gas pipeline project had to be judged against the background of the Polish crisis. It was important, he added, that Poland should soon pay the \$300m (£150m) or so it still owes to Western banks from 1981 and sign the agreement rescheduling the \$2,400m of private bank debt that fell due last year.

Herr Künnen's remarks came a day after the German banking consortium met in Frankfurt in the headquarters of the Deutsche Bank to consider the Soviet request. Although the Deutsche Bank has refused all comment on the meeting, Herr Künnen's remarks confirm that as a group the banks are not prepared to lend Russia more money at this stage.

The official said talks with Lord Carrington would be wide-ranging, covering bilateral relations, the Middle East peace process and matters related to the European Economic Community.

Other Israeli sources say that the initiative for the visit came from Britain last year during a heated meeting at the United Nations headquarters between Lord Carrington and Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Foreign Minister.

It was decided to pick a date after Britain had relinquished the presidency of the EEC Council of Ministers.

Israeli-British relations are at one of their lowest points, with much of the hostility felt by the Israeli Government and the public at large aimed directly at Lord Carrington himself.

Israeli political sources predict that the visit is likely to provoke anti-British demonstrations from Israelis who have been infuriated by what they regard as Lord Carrington's undisguised support for many of the aims of by Palestine Liberation Organization.

According to well qualified observers, firm orders so far are worth less than DM1,000m, and this total includes AEG's DM700m order for compressors, which is threatened by the Reagan Administration's ban on the export of component parts made by the General Electric Company.

The worsening of relations between Moscow and the West German banks has already resulted in the cancellation of a visit to Moscow at the end of this week by Herr Wilhelm Christians, one of the two chief executives of the Deutsche Bank, and the postponement of a meeting of the banking and credit committee of the joint West German-Soviet commission for economic cooperation that was due to take place at the end of this month.

□ Warsaw: Poland's theatre season opened last night with the play *Police* (police), about a nameless police officer who is a prince regent. The State has been so effective in wiping out opposition that only one political prisoner remains. He alone is the *raison d'être* for the thousands of secret police men, warders and prison officials that form the backbone of the regime.

The problem is that the prisoner, having served 10 years for unsuccessfully trying to blow up a general, is now a completely loyal citizen. He demands to sign a declaration of loyalty—not dissimilar to the ones having to be signed by members of the Polish state administration since martial law was imposed. The policemen try unsuccessfully to dissuade the prisoner from pledging loyalty.

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The plot takes on the complexity of a farce: in the end the policeman succeeds in persuading the agent provocateur to throw a bomb at the general and thus make himself a political prisoner to replace the man who has recanted.

The play, written by Slawomir Mrozek, was originally performed in Wladyslaw Gomulka's Poland in 1958; then too it had to be played as a farce to be acceptable to the censor.

Afterwards it was quietly dropped and reemerged on Solidarity's Poland, performed in August, 1981. This time it was acted as the playwright had wished—with sardonic humour but without slapstick as a serious comment on Poland.

□ Brussels: Poland has been arranging transport for the 8,000 tonnes of beef, given by the European Community at the end of last month.

That the authorities have allowed the play to be staged again is viewed by some Poles as an encouraging sign, but to make it tolerable for the martial law authorities, it has lost its edge.

Foreign ministers to meet in Spain

□ Madrid: A high-level discussion on Poland, with many Western foreign ministers taking part, will be held here when the European security review conference resumes on February 9.

It is true that there are now indications that the MPLA (the government party) is willing to talk to us. I have received a message from Luanda inviting him to begin reconciliation negotiations.

Among those expected to attend are Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, M. Claude Cheysson, his French counterpart, and probably Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, who originally made the proposal for the Madrid discussions.

It is not yet certain whether Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, will come, as he may have difficulty in fitting the meeting into his timetable.

Last month the Soviet Union stubbornly refused to permit any consideration of Poland's "internal affairs" of the Madrid conference, let alone Moscow's responsibility for the Polish crisis.

The Soviet delegation has always been headed by a deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Leonid Il'yichov.

□ Brussels: Poland has been arranging transport for the 8,000 tonnes of beef, given by the European Community at the end of last month.

Although there has been no official confirmation from Luanda, Dr Savimbi said contacts would be made through intermediaries for at least the next two months.

He was sending Mr Jeremias Chitunda, Secretary to Foreign Affairs, to Washington later this week to coordinate indirect contacts with the Angolan authorities.

Diplomatic sources said they hoped that face-to-face meetings would begin by April. If they could establish a mutually agreeable framework—negotiations would then move to a higher level.

Dr Savimbi said one of Luanda's conditions for talks was that Unita ends its relations with South Africa, which entered the 1975-76 Angolan independence war in support of Unita and another Angolan movement, the FNL.

As part of the developments on Namibia and Angola, Mr Paulo Jorge, the Angolan Foreign Minister, last week met Dr Chester Crocker, the United States Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs. Dr Crocker had already met Dr Brand Fourie, Director General of the South African Foreign Affairs Ministry.

Luanda is seeking diplomatic recognition by the United States—withdrawn since independence—and is offering to cooperate in finding a solution to the Namibian problem.

Egypt's President to visit Britain next month

By David Spanier

President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt will pay an official visit to Britain on February 6 and 7, during which he will have talks with Mrs Margaret Thatcher at Chequers.

He will be accompanied by Mrs Mubarack.

The main purpose of the discussions will be to review the European Community's role in the search for a Middle East settlement.

The Egyptian President will also visit Bonn and Paris on his return from talks in Washington on February 3 and 4.

Why Israeli Premier is popular

Begin's attitudes reflect the national mood

From Edward Mortimer, Jerusalem

Whatever the rest of the world may think of him, Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, undoubtedly enjoys popularity inside Israel itself.

He is especially popular with the working class Jews originating from North Africa, who see him as an ally against the socialist and cultural Establishment of European origin, represented by the Israeli Labour Party.

But above all Mr Begin is popular because he has cocked a snook at the world, and got away with it. Indeed, such opposition as has developed on Mr Begin's Right (and indeed, it has been serious) is based on the argument that if you can get away with so much, why stop there?

Mr Begin has acted, with even greater verve, on the maxim of his old enemy Ben-Gurion: "It doesn't matter what the Goipin say, it matters only what the Jews do", and so far he has been proved right. The Arabs are unable to react effectively, and the Americans either cannot or will not. The latest example is particularly striking.

After the invasion of the Golan Heights, the Americans announced the "suspension" of the recently signed memorandum of Understanding on Strategic Cooperation.

Mr Begin replied with a series of very insulting remarks about President Reagan and declared the memorandum null and void. Yet Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, was in

departments of Jewish hospitals have had to be postponed because the laundry, staffed by Arabs, did not function. In this Jewish state... the normal, daily existence of Jews depends on Arabs.

These views are echoed, with some variations, by Israeli liberal intellectuals who do not share Professor Leibowitz's strong religious commitment. They are appalled by the growing strength of a quite different type of religious fervour which could perhaps fairly be called fundamentalist, a school of thought which not only holds that the whole "land of Israel" belongs to the Jews by divine right, but advocates that the Western states, in which all citizens have equal rights regardless of religion, race and sex, but that this is the "Jewish state" where only Jews are citizens with voting rights and all those who are not Jews can only be foreigners among us".

This formula, put forward in the journal of the Israeli settlers in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, is of course a distorted image of the more extreme proposals for an Islamic state that one hears put forward among Muslims (including some Muslim inhabitants of those same territories).

It is the ideological superstructure corresponding to a wide range of attitudes and behaviour towards Arabs. At the popular level, some of which is fair to say, have been criticized in the settlers'

Peace talks offer to rebels in Angola

By Fred Bridgland of "The Scotsman"

A number of complex diplomatic initiatives have been launched to try to end the civil war in Angola. They are running in conjunction with the talks for a settlement of the Namibian dispute.

The initiatives include the first offer by Angola's Marxist government to negotiate with Unita insurgents forces in the nearly seven years of fighting since the former Portuguese colony became independent.

In addition, as reported in *The Times* last week, two Soviet airmen being held prisoner by Unita are to be exchanged soon for two American prisoners held by the authorities in Luanda. Twenty-three Portuguese prisoners also held by Unita forces are to be released after four years in captivity.

But before negotiations begin between the adversaries in Angola the war could become more intense. After a ten-week visit to the United States and seven countries in Black Africa, Western Europe and the Middle East, Dr Jonas Savimbi, the Unita leader, is returning home with Soviet-made missiles.

Dankert to cut EEC red tape

From George Clark, Strasbourg, Jan 20

Mr Piet Dankert, the Dutch Socialist, who was elected last night as president of the European Parliament, said today that he intended to go over the heads of the Council of Ministers and EEC commission to the member-states' governments and parliaments to enlist their aid in obtaining greater legislative powers for the European Community.

He said he would include in his personal cabinet people from different parts of the EEC, including someone from Britain, so that he will have direct links with politicians and ministers in the European capitals.

Although MEPs of all parties welcomed Mr Dankert's firm commitment to what he called the struggle to increase Parliament's powers and influence, and to justify its existence to the European electorate, the Conservatives were doubtful about his plan for "direct links".

In his first speech as president, Mr Dankert paid generous tribute to the achievements of Mme Simone Veil, his predecessor, but in Parliament and on the world stage. He quoted Mr David Wood of *The Times* as saying that she had succeeded in getting the Parliament accepted as "a presence if not a power, in international relations".

He won applause for his declaration that before the next direct elections in 1984 the Parliament had to demonstrate to the electors that it could play a positive role in determining the Community's policies.

Mr Dankert is acknowledged by members of most



Mr Piet Dankert: The people's champion

his arguments, the MEPs rejected the budget, and the struggle began to assert Parliament's right to influence the political aims of the Community, as expressed through expenditure.

Mr Dankert was particularly intent on cutting back the proportion of the budget that went to agriculture, and putting more into social and regional spending, as the world economic depression deepened and unemployment figures increased.

Since then he has been a member of the Parliament's conciliation delegation which waits on the Council of Ministers when there is a budget dispute — there has been each year since MEPs were directly elected — and he has earned the reputation of being an astute negotiator.

As an apprenticeship to the job he now takes over, he has been a vice-president (deputy speaker) at the plenary sessions since 1979.

Mr Dankert was born in Steins, in The Netherlands, read history and became a secondary school teacher. From 1960 to 1962, he was chairman of the Young Socialists in his country and excelled in the Atlantic Young Political Leaders' Association. From 1963 to 1971, he was deputy, then chief international secretary of the Dutch Labour Party, becoming a member of the Bureau of the Socialist International and of the liaison office of the EEC's Socialist and Social Democratic parties.

He had the chance to put his ideas into practice when he was general rapporteur of the European Parliament on the 1980 budget. Largely on

parties to be an effective champion of the peoples' representatives in the running battle with the Council of Ministers and the governments of the member states over the role which the European Parliament is entitled to play in Europe.

Coming to the Parliament in 1977 after playing a prominent role in the Council

of Europe, the Western European Union and the Nato Assembly, he made it clear that he wanted to achieve more democratic control over the actions of the EEC Commission and the Council of Ministers.

He had the chance to put his ideas into practice when he was general rapporteur of the European Parliament on the 1980 budget. Largely on

the strength of his arguments, the MEPs rejected the budget, and the struggle began to assert Parliament's right to influence the political aims of the Community, as expressed through expenditure.

Last year Prince Sihanouk declared his irreversible retirement from politics. However, he said in an interview here that China was his best friend, and he would do whatever China wanted. He said he knew the Khmer Rouge did not want him to lead a coalition consisting of themselves, his supporters and the anti-communist nationalists forced by Mr Son Sann, a former Prime Minister.

Accepting that his future role will have to be determined by outside forces, Prince Sihanouk said: "That is all right by me."

The flamboyant former ruler who helped the North Vietnamese in their war against South Vietnam and the United States, said he now had only a few hundred armed followers, but could have many thousands if China would supply arms, food and medicine.

Asked why he formerly allowed eastern Cambodia to be used as a transit route and sanctuary for the North Vietnamese and the Vietcong, he said that in the 1960s he had no other option.

Fighting grows: A wave of refugees crossed the Cambodian border into Thailand last night after the third day of intensified fighting between Vietnamese-led forces and the Khmer Rouge. (David Watts writes from Bangkok.)

The fighting is the latest manifestation of the new Vietnamese policy of using forces of main force strength to attack Khmer Rouge strongholds and to turn over as much of the fighting as possible to troops of the Vietnamese-backed Government.

According to the Thai Supreme Command, about 3,000 refugees have fled into Thailand. They are expected to return to Cambodia as soon as the fighting dies down.

The Thais are afraid that this latest outbreak of heavy fighting, which follows a heavy attack on a key Khmer Rouge supply base, could spill across the border.

Unesco tries to get cash for Third World media

From Stephen Downer, Mexico City, Jan 20

Third World delegates attending the Unesco conference on the International Programme for the Development of Communication in Acapulco have accused Western nations of controlling Third World news. Mr Christopher Nacimento, of Guyana, claimed yesterday, at the first working day of the conference, that the plight of the world's poorest was "not as portrayed by the media monopoly of the North".

The seven day conference, inaugurated by President Jose Lopez Portillo of Mexico, on Monday, is seeking ways of funding improved mass communications in the poor countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

In the second conference organized by the United Nations body which is trying to satisfy Third World re-

quests for \$73m (£38m). So far only \$5m (£2.6m) has been promised. The United States and some other industrialized countries have refused to give money to the scheme, although they have said they will fund some Third World communications programmes directly.

Many Western publishers and editors believe that the money may be used to establish government media monopolies and to control the information flowing in and out of a country.

Mr Charles Scripps, president of the Inter-American Press Association and the head of the Scripps newspaper chain, said his association did not oppose the creation of new news outlets. But he thought they might be used to restrict the work of journalists.

The proposed steps against disreputable travel agents were announced in the wake of another recent scandal over the behaviour of Japanese businessmen who posted abroad. Japan's large trading houses are up in arms because Mr Michio Watanabe, Japan's Minister of Finance, recently alleged that businessmen spoilt the country's image by ostentatiously enjoying themselves abroad.

Japanese businessmen never contribute towards charities and churches when they are abroad. They engage in drunken revelry night after night in night clubs, creating a bad impression.

In any event, Japan's image has been tarnished in recent years by a spate of organized sex tours to South Korea, Thailand, the Philippines and other countries.

Reputable travel agents who oppose the practice estimate that as many as 1.5 million Japanese men travel in all-male groups to Korea and South-East Asia every year after paying a package price for their fare, hotel rooms, cabaret shows, and the promise of sex.

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Zimbabwe white exodus slackens

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, Jan 20

There is some cheer for the Zimbabwe Government in the latest emigration statistics which show a sharp drop in the number of skilled whites leaving the country.

The figure of 1,005 for November was the lowest for

any month since before

independence and was down

by almost half on October.

However, the overall

number of emigrants for the

first 11 months of the year

went up to 18,747 more than

have left in any full year.

While the November figure

suggests that perhaps the

departure rate has bottomed

out, sources gave a warning

against over-optimism, point-

ing out that prospective

emigrants with children at

school might have delayed

their departure until the end

of the school year in

December.

November also brought

good news in the shape of the

number of skilled immigrants to

the country. Five depart-

ing engineers were replaced

by 19 arriving and although

three doctors left eight

others arrived. There was a

substantial gain in teachers

but a net loss among mechan-

ical workers.

The departure of Zimbabweans with skills, mainly to

South Africa but also to

Australia, remains one of the

country's most pressing

problems. Their replacement

by expatriates, many on

contracts, can only be a

temporary measure.

Ministers cleared of Bihar blindings

From Kuldip Nayak, Delhi, Jan 20

The Central Bureau of Investigation has cleared the Bihar Government of complicity or negligence in the blinding of 32 people awaiting trial by the state police. However, the Deputy Inspector-General of Police and the district magistrate in Bhagalpur are found to have had prior knowledge of the practice of blindings and not acting to prevent it.

The Supreme Court of India is hearing a case in which as many as 32 people were said to have been blinded between July and November, 1980, and that Mr Jagannath Mishra, the Chief Minister of Bihar, did not act to stop the blindings even when he was allegedly told about them in September 1980.

The Supreme Court had requested the central Government to find out how far the state was involved in the incidents.

In its report, the Central Bureau of Investigation says the blindings were only an instance of isolated crime without any conspiracy.

The blindings had rocked India and the debate has continued since. The bureau findings will have wide repercussions because it tries to shift the blame away from the Chief Minister and top state officials. Both the opposition and the press have been pressing Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, to dismiss the Bihar government for refraining from action when it had "prior knowledge" of the blindings.

The Bihar CID had registered 24 cases against the

police in December, 1980. The bureau says that there is evidence for criminal prosecution in 10 of them. In nine cases there was not enough evidence and hence it recommended only departmental action. In the remaining five cases no one was found responsible.

Ten people were killed and at least 35 injured in the states of West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu after one-day strikes throughout the country yesterday to protest against low wages and repressive measures of the central Government.

Official sources said that six of the deaths were in clashes between supporters and opponents of the strike and the rest were killed when the police opened fire.

More than 10,000 arrests were made in different states in the last two days. Among them are 10 MPs.

The strike was almost total in the communist-run state of West Bengal and Tripura. An official release said that in key economic sectors like petroleum, fertilizers, steel, telecommunications and transport were, by and large, normal everywhere, but the functioning of banks and insurance offices were disrupted.

No daily newspaper, except for the Congress (I) Party's *National Herald* came out in Delhi. The flow of information was inadequate since the two main news agencies, Press Trust of India and the United News of India, were on strike.

Moonshine enjoys a timely success

From Christopher Thomas, New York, Jan 20

A company in North Caldwell, New Jersey, is reporting brisk sales of a one-handed clock with a cycle of 24 hours, 50 minutes and 30 seconds, which supposedly helps to keep track of body rhythms.

It is geared to the passage of the moon which, if the company's salesmen are to be believed, governs a person's state of mind. Mr Louis Schelling, the inventor, said: "With the knowledge that the moon's effect is maximum at noon today you might schedule lunch with an important client."

He contends that the moon's cycle matches the human body's circadian rhythm.

His claims, however, have brought a swift response from Mr Wilse Webb, a psychologist at University of Florida's sleep research centre and one of the country's leading authorities on the subject. He said the lunar cycle was 15 to 20 minutes shorter than the average person's circadian cycle and the evidence that the moon influenced human behaviour was "very, very weak".

Mr Schelling claims that he is selling the clock to colleges, doctors, astronomers and people interested in astrology. But in an unguarded moment he confessed: "I don't believe in myself."



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PARLIAMENT January 20, 1982

Main Sizewell inquiry starts next January

ENERGY

The main hearing of the public inquiry into the application by the Central Electricity Generating Board to build a pressurised water reactor at Sizewell in Suffolk should begin early in January 1982. Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary of State for Energy, announced in a statement yesterday that Frank Layfield QC has already been appointed as inspector to the inquiry.

Mr Lawson said he wished the public and other representatives to have adequate opportunity to study the extensive documentation and documentation which would be provided. He was proposing to consult with those involved in the preparation of the inquiry before the end of April.

Deputy Sir Marshall, as chairman of the PWR Task Force, will continue to co-ordinate the efforts of all the parties involved in the preparation of this report (he said) and will keep me informed of progress. The CEBG also intend to issue at the end of April a statement in support of their application.

The Nuclear Installations Inspectorate of the Health and

Safety Executive have told me that they expect to publish a report on Safety issues by the end of June.

There will therefore be an extended period for the study of the CEBG's documentation and the NII report.

Earlier preliminary hearings

will be held by the inspector at which those parties that wish to put their views before him on the general arrangements for the conduct of the inquiry may do so at a time well before the main inquiry begins.

The main hearing (and at least

one of the preliminary hearings)

will take place in Suffolk. I hope

that the main hearing to be held

within easy reach of the Sizewell

area; an announcement on this

will be made soon.

The Government are convinced

that nuclear power has an

increasingly important role to

play in electricity generation in

Britain. Nevertheless, any specific

proposal has to be judged on

its own merits. The arrangements

for the Sizewell inquiry is

thoroughly and properly exam-

ined.

Mr Merlyn Rees, chief opposi-

tion spokesman (Leeds, South,

Lab) said that American expe-

rience with the pressurised

water reactor was a cause for

safety concern and ought to be

carefully considered during the

inquiry.

Mr Gwydion Roberts (Cannock,

Stafford, Lab) said: Many of the

representations received con-

cerning local government finance

had been submitted to the

Government by local auth-

orities. It is difficult to

square that statement with the

thought that the first investi-

gation into alternatives of local

government came when reverse

policies were the practice.

Mr John Ward (Poole, C): He

should remember the problems

of the commercial and industrial

sectors also mentioned briefly

in the green paper who bear a

high proportion of local govern-

ment finance and are threatened

out of existence by some local

authorities.

Mr Heseltine: I hope we will

not misunderstand the difficulties

of finding a balance between ratepayers' I am aware that a great deal

of concern is now being

expressed by the commercial and

industrial ratepayers who find

themselves paying ever increas-

ing rate bills without any form of

direct representation on the

authorities.

The daunting task the Govern-

ment faces in reforming the

rate system would be made

easier if the upper level of local

government was abolished and we returned to the previous

unitary system.

Mr Heseltine: I know there are

pressures to look at the structure

of parts of local government.

These pressures would be re-

duced if some of the councils

were less free with their

spending policies. I see the

Government's immediate priority

in this matter is to deal with the

financial aspects centred on the

green paper.

Mr Sydney Chapman (Barnet,

Chipping Barnet, C): Since

domestic rates bring in only 16

per cent of local authority

revenue and domestic rating is an

inherently unfair tax, its replace-

ment by tax or taxes collected

nationally would not be detri-

mental to local government

freedom because local govern-

ment would be able to

keep its spending policies

more in line with the general

level of taxation.

Mr John Stanley, Minister for

Housing and Construction, said

that if Mr Kaufman was really

interested in housing the home-

less he should withdraw imme-

diately the Opposition pledge to

abolish the present shorthold

policy.

Mr Gwydion Roberts (Cannock,

Stafford, Lab) asked what were the

number of local authorities that

had just submitted their repre-

sentations to the Government

concerning local government

finance and how many had been

submitted to the Secretary of State

for consideration.

Mr Stanley: In the first 11

months of 1982 there were 20,000

local authority and new town

housing starts in England and

32,000 completions. The gross

provision for local authority

housing capital expenditure in

1981-82 shows an increase in real

terms on the current year.

It is imperative that local

authorities give every possible

attention to making full use of

the allocation available to the

various sums represented by

way of addition to that allocation

from capital receipts — housing

and non-housing receipts.

Mr John Heddle (Lichfield and

Tamworth, C): The best way to

restore hope to the hundreds of

thousands of people waiting for

council houses is for the Labour

Party to bring in its own

programme of action.

Mr Macfarlane: I have no

doubt that the PWR will work

at a high level of efficiency.

He asked if the inquiry would

be broad enough to allow people

to argue that the money involved

would be better spent on

insulating homes which create

jobs and save more energy than

the PWR design?

Mr Stanley: We will be

able to argue that the money involved

would be better spent on

insulating homes which create

jobs and save more energy than

the PWR design?

Mr Stanley: He is right. If

Mr Kaufman had not made the

particular commitment he has

done on behalf of the Labour

Party to shorthold there would

be many thousands of additional

rented flats available.

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Why I quit the Tories for the SDP

Comparatively few Tories occupying even modest positions in the party have so far decided to join the Alliance, though very large numbers of Tory voters seem to have done so — at least temporarily — in the secrecy of the ballot-box or the anonymity of the opinion poll.

The reasons for this are obvious. When a party is in government, loyalty to it can be represented as a public duty and in all sorts of ways discipline is easier to maintain (government being, for one thing, the principal fountain of "honour"). Moreover, the Tory Party, though deeply divided — more deeply than I can ever remember — is still in less of a mess than the Labour Party; and its leadership, though gravely defective, is all the same less so than Labour's.

Finally, traditional Tories are quiet people with a very marked disinclination to break with the past. That is both their strength and their weakness; but in present circumstances surely more of a weakness, because recently untraditional Tories, who are not at all quiet people, have been profiting from their inertia to take over the party and change its character. From being open-minded and realistic it has fallen under the spell of economic dogma, and from being on the whole tolerant and friendly it has become almost nasty.

My own sense of being no longer at home in it began when I watched highlights (if that is the right word) of the last party conference on television. The most outrageous scene was when a young man expressing unpopular but decent and thoughtful views in the law and order debate was virtually denied a hearing by a large proportion of those present, whose cultural level seemed to be approximately that of football hooligans. Mr Whitelaw was shocked at the time, as well he might be, and the other day said again (on Tyne-Tees Television) how distressed he was by the debate generally. But there has



by John Grigg

The author was twice a Conservative parliamentary candidate, at Oldham in 1951 and 1955, and has just resigned as President of the Greenwich Conservative Association. He is an historian and political journalist who created a stir in 1957 when he criticized the Queen and her court for being stuffy and out of touch. He succeeded his father, a Conservative Minister as Lord Altrincham in 1955, but did not apply for Writ of Summons to the House of Lords and disclaimed the barony in 1963.

been no such reproof from Mrs Thatcher.

No less deplorable, though rather less widespread, was the barracking of Mr Heath when he spoke in the economic debate. As not only a former party leader and Prime Minister, but also one of the most respected public figures in the world, he deserved to be heard in polite silence even by his enemies. Instead he had to complete his speech in a growing tumult of noise. Again, Mrs Thatcher did not condemn this rowdyism, but in her own speech on the last day merely said she was pleased that Mr Heath had been allowed to address the conference.

Mrs Thatcher had, there what was probably her last opportunity to make a truly conciliatory gesture to her predecessor, whose record as Prime Minister has been so vilely distorted and traduced by her supporters. But she clearly lacks the magnanimity even to heal the wounds within her own party, so it is hardly surprising that she has failed to unite the country.

To judge from some of her remarks the Sunday before last on BBC radio's *The World This Weekend*, she believes that her economic policies would have succeeded better if she had not been restrained by fainthearts among her colleagues and parliamentary followers. One was painfully reminded of those who said, and still say, that the only thing wrong with the Suez policy in 1956 was that we did not go through with it, whatever the consequences. In fact, to

have gone any further in that crazy and discreditable venture would have been to bring the country to utter ruin. And, by the same token, if the present Government's deflationary doctrines had been carried to their logical extreme, at a time of severe recession, there would have been very little left of the British economy or, for that matter, of British democracy.

At the time of Suez I was one who would have felt bound to leave the Conservative Party if there had been anywhere else to go. But the Labour Party had, as it still has, a built-in economic ideology, and was formally tied, as it still is, to a single sectional interest, while the Liberal Party was no more than a party of protest. Now, however, the situation is radically different. For the first time in the lives of most of us there is somewhere else to go, since the Alliance offers the chance of a way away from economic dogmatism of Left or Right, and from sectional interest groups formal or informal.

At last there is the possibility of tackling the country's endemic problems, and of giving new life to its institutions — more especially its public institutions — with the backing of a substantial majority of the people.

This will only happen, however, if those of us who want it to happen do as much as we can to bring it about. The recent signs of dissension within the Alliance, and of a perceptible weakening in its popular support, have convinced me that I

ought to join. To want it to succeed, and yet not to join it, would be shameful and craven, and it is, I believe particularly desirable for Tories to join and to do so openly.

I have, therefore, asked not to be renominated as president of the Greenwich Conservative Association, and have written to the chairman as follows: "I shall be joining the SDP, because it seems to me that only the Alliance now has the capacity, or even apparently the desire, to unite the country and inspire a genuine national effort. The Tory party of my dreams was truly national and free from ideology. The party as I see it today is neither."

Needless to say, the office in question is very minor, and I am — or was — a person of very little consequence in the Tory party. But I hope I may be one of many such deciding to take this step — and that more important people may follow in their own way and their own time.

I am joining the SDP component of the Alliance partly for personal reasons, but also because the Liberal rank and file has shown a tendency to unilateralism from which the SDP rank and file seems to be exempt. But

I entirely agree with Dick Taverne that what really matters is the Alliance.

To those like-minded Tories who feel that they ought at all costs to stay and fight within the party, I would say that they are wasting their time. In the short term the battle is lost, and by staying they will only be acquiescing in policies which they know to be either entirely wrong or, at best, inadequate — while denying something in which they more truly believe.

Moreover, they should reflect that nothing is more likely to bring the party to its senses than a heavy defeat at the next election; 1945 did it a power of good. But the alternative today is potentially so much better, for the country, than the Labour Party in 1945.

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Ronald Butt

No militancy please, we're workers

"If the present lines of development could be projected into the future, the next 10 years would probably see a gradual decline in the fortunes of the Labour Party. It has attained its true objective, the Welfare State, and is finding difficulty in attuning its organization and methods to the social and economic structure of the United Kingdom."

This projection, with which the late Sir Ivor Jennings concluded the second of his three volumes on party politics, in 1961, seemed somewhat outmoded by the triumph of the Wilson Government two years later. Despite the accumulating economic storms which eventually wrecked that government, the Sixties were a decade in which social democratic categories of thought, then expressed through the dominant wing of the Labour Party, were in the ascendant.

Besides, even the best findings of the socio-political statistician seemed to confirm that this was the natural state of things. In 1969 Dr David Butler and Professor Donald Stokes published their massive statistical survey of political change in Britain, which suggested that, towards the end of the century, demographic change in Britain would increasingly favour Labour.

The Tory victory of 1970 seemed something of a set back for this theory, but in 1974 the folly of the Heath government in first inflating, then rousing the unions against itself by pay controls

and finally appealing to the electorate from the midst of the chaos it had created once more changed the scene. Labour was back — but without a clear majority and increasingly in the left's grip. It was union militancy that overthrew Mr Callaghan, and Mrs Thatcher succeeded to an inheritance that seemed potentially more dangerous than that of any Prime Minister since the war.

So which projections now look more in tune with events, those based on the Jennings analysis, or the pointers of the Butler-Stokes statistics? Of course, the scene is confused since we now have a Social Democratic Party which in some sense is the heir of the old Labour Party. Even so, when we examine the basis of the Jennings reasoning and apply it to the scene now, it remains remarkably convincing — much more so than the arid statistics of the Butler-Stokes inquiry.

"Not all trade unionists support trade unions and many of their wives dislike their industrial activities even more. It is necessary to join in order to get and keep a job, but strike pay is not enough to maintain hire purchase payments." If that was true when Jennings wrote it in 1961, how much more true it looks now, as Mr Arthur Scargill rants and roars at the miners' expected refusal to give him a blank cheque for militancy and against Mr Joe Gormley's "unparalleled act of betrayal" in advising the miners to think carefully

before rejecting the Coal Board's offer.

But it is not Mr Scargill's

rage, nor even Mr Gormley's advice, that is most significant now. If Mr Gormley's words of caution to the miners have been heeded (we shall know for certain today) it is only because he advised them to do what it was already in their hearts to do.

The miners can be implacable militants when they choose, which is when they feel they have a real cause, but they are always slow to take extreme action (they were even in 1973) and they cannot be led where they do not want to go — or persuaded to write blank cheques for militancy at a leader's whim.

The reason why they are particularly reluctant to be destructively militant now is that which I have already quoted from Jennings — only more so. It is not only their hire purchases but their mortgages (they are increasingly house-owners) and other commitments associated with middle-class standards that would be put at risk. They do not wish their families to be Arthur Scargill's sacrificial victims. They voted for Mr Scargill as the toughest man on offer because a tough man is useful in an unavoidable crisis — but they do not want that crisis if it can be avoided. Nor do they wish to give him absolute powers.

Throughout this winter we have had evidence of left-wing leaders pushing as hard as they can to bring their rank-and-file out to destroy

Left, which is more virulent, bitter and ruthless than ever. The one thing that would shake workers' confidence in their new middle-class values would be a continuing economic decline, a failure to stop the rise in unemployment and the fear of people in well-paid work that it was at risk. They will not risk unemployment to satisfy Mr Scargill's sort of politics; they might, however, turn to the Left if, this year, hope seemed to dwindle into deeper economic insecurity.

Even bad things can have beneficial side-effects. The great inflation has given many "working-class" people wages hardly different from (and in many cases higher than) those of many in the so-called middle-classes — and they have taken on corresponding commitments. They do not wish to jettison this. The support given to the SDP-Liberal Alliance is a symptom of this change, and if further proof were needed we have it in the MORI poll for Granada Television which this week showed that a majority of trade unionists expect Labour to lose the election, more than half do not favour their union's affiliation to the Labour Party, and over a third are prepared to vote for the Alliance.

Mrs Thatcher by industrial action — and we have seen the rank-and-file reluctant to oblige. The basic reason for this moderation is the profound social changes that have happened to working-class people during the great inflation.

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That is why the Left has a vested interest in economic failure, and will use industrial action if it can to bring about this. It is correspondingly why Mrs Thatcher this year has to stop the decline going further without accelerating inflation again.

Meanwhile, the ordinary worker plainly does not want Mr Scargill, Mr Benn or even Mr Foot, and will still not want them, even when they hide behind such respectable hostages of the new Labour dispensation as Mr Healey and Mr Hattersley. Labour's essential problem remains that diagnosed by Jennings.

The reason is, of course, that "working-class" is an increasingly outmoded concept. What Jennings wrote in 1961 remains true in 1982. This is the year in which every working individual's attachment to liberty and social evolution through those among their own leaders who want to use it to destroy this Government.

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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

MR REAGAN'S FIRST YEAR

The whole of the free world has an interest in there being an effective President of the United States. Yet so many hopes are vested in the office that it has become almost impossible for it to be filled satisfactorily. Not since 1972 has a president been elected to a second term, and Mr Nixon does not offer the most fortunate of examples. Not since Eisenhower has a president served two terms. Already there are signs that the process of intense exposure that consumed Mr Ford and Mr Carter may be beginning to have its effect on Mr Reagan. At the end of his first year there is no shortage of critical voices.

The record is certainly mixed, but it is much better than many of the critics would allow. Mr Reagan's greatest strength is that he has shown himself to be an accomplished politician in office, as well as in campaigning for office. This is the quality without which no man can be a successful president. It has been displayed to greatest effect in Mr Reagan's handling of Congress, at which he has been more adept than any president since the first two years of Lyndon Johnson.

This quality is linked to his capacity to communicate with the public at large. His performance at press conferences, which are so important in the United States, has been uneven; yet he has managed to convey the impression of an agreeable man, relaxed in the exercise of power, capable of explaining his policy with clarity and even eloquence, and also on occasion of decisive action. That was demonstrated most effectively in his rout of the air traffic controllers and in his espousal of the zero option proposal for the intermediate-range nuclear missile negotiations.

This record disproves the caricature of an irrational extremist that was presented to the outside world, and indeed often to the American public itself, before his election. Nor is his Administration run by a bunch of cowboys, as might be supposed from some critical comments. It is not as orderly as seems appropriate to those

accustomed to European forms of parliamentary government, but it is more orderly than Mr Carter's team.

Why then the criticisms? One reason is that many people had a preconception of what a Reagan presidency would be like and have attached particular importance to all those items of evidence that have appeared on to the Americans. An unhealthy mood has developed in western Europe that is too dismissive of American concerns, especially when these should properly be the concerns of the alliance as a whole, and takes America too much for granted. The improvement of relationships within the alliance should be seen not as a challenge according to which Mr Reagan alone will be judged, but as an equal obligation on both sides of the Atlantic.

In foreign policy there has been a weakness in organisation that can be attributed in large measure to the difficulties that Mr Haig has had with his colleagues. Mr Reagan is not a president who wishes to immerse himself in foreign policy, but he is not willing simply to hand over control in this field to somebody else.

This requires that the administration should contain a principal architect and coordinator of foreign policy, who commands the close confidence of the President, but who also has a sensitive awareness of the limits of his authority.

Mr Haig was chosen for this role, but he possesses neither of those qualifications. He has also clashed frequently with his colleagues, most notably Mr Richard Allen, while he was still the National Security Adviser, but not only with Mr Allen. Now that Mr Allen has been replaced by Mr William Clark this part of the administration may function more smoothly. But there can be no doubt that these difficulties have made more protracted the adjustment of international realities necessary for a government that took office with too simple a view of the world.

The struggle with the Soviet Union is the most important aspect of international affairs for the United States. If it gets that part of its policy wrong, the whole free world stands to suffer. But it is misguided to see every issue in terms of that struggle. If the United States sees every situation in the light of international Communism it is more likely to create conditions that will

enable international Communism to extend its influence.

This excessive simplicity has certainly hampered United States policy in the Middle East and Latin America. The reputation for excessive simplicity has damaged the relationship with western Europe. But it would be wrong to put all the blame for the difficulties of the alliance on to the Americans. An unhealthy mood has developed in western Europe that is too dismissive of American concerns, especially when these should properly be the concerns of the alliance as a whole, and takes America too much for granted.

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THE RULES OF MONOPOLY

The Monopolies Commission is most commonly thought of as a body intended to stop the wealthy and strong gobbling up the small and weak when there is no benefit to public or consumer. Would that that were still the case. It is not. Over the past five or six years, and most surprisingly under a government formally committed to letting the market take its course, the scope and nature of the Monopolies Commission inquiries have been widened to include reviews of the efficiency of the nationalized industries, opining on the personalities of management and regional policy, and deciding whether a merger would be a good thing per se, not simply whether it would create an unwelcome market dominance. In a succession of recent reports, most notably on the Lonrho acquisition of *The Observer* (allowed), the Lonrho take-over of the House of Fraser (disallowed), the projected take-overs of the Royal Bank of Scotland (refused) the European Ferries take-over of Sealink (refused) and Berisford's bid for British Sugar (allowed), the commission has been inconsistent not just in its judgments but in its approach.

This is not entirely the commission's fault. The successive acts defining its role have been drawn deliberately widely to leave much discretion to the Secretary of State for Trade in making a reference and to the commission in deciding how to

define the public interest in any case. How the immediate interests of a company in danger of closure can be set against the dangers that its take-over implies for competition in the marketplace must always be a subjective judgment made case by case. The commission does and should respond to public mood. In so far as one can discern any trend in its recent decisions it is towards a more questioning approach to the value of merger, which broadly accords with present fashion.

Yet the startling inconsistency of the commission's recent reports betrays problems deeper than fashion or human fallibility. The fact that different reports can find Lonrho good enough to own a national newspaper but not good enough to own a draper's store, and that they can say within months that one bid (Berisford for British Sugar) would bring no benefit but should be allowed and that another (Hiram Walker for Highland Distillers) should be refused because it brought no benefit suggests that a widening discretion is becoming a cause for confusion rather than improvement.

Part of the problem lies in what the commission is being asked to do. Increasingly Ministers are using it, as in the case of the Royal Bank of Scotland, to cope with awkward political issues rather than examine real questions of competition. The commission itself responds by

coming to conclusions which are essentially political. And this in turn highlights the limits of competence of the members of the commission itself and those it co-opts. There are on the whole good establishment figures from the Civil Service, the legal profession, the academic world and industry, able to investigate the rationale of mergers but ill-equipped to decide broader questions such as the Bank of England's role in monetary control or the weight of multiples in gaining discounts for retailers.

The terms of reference under which the commission examines individual cases need to be better drawn. Even without a formal change in the 1972 Fair Trading Act — the source of much of the confusion — the Trade Secretary should be more precise in setting the ground rules for an inquiry. He might well suggest, as an innovation, the areas on which he would expect a firm recommendation by the commission, essentially the questions of competition, and other areas where he might ask the commission to consider and advise, but reserve to Cabinet the duty of final decision. That would put the responsibility for political judgments where it ought to lie. Judgment even in the area of competition must always remain a broad and subjective act. But it is time that the Monopolies Commission was reined back to concentrate the better on the areas of its greatest competence.

Responsibility accepted and shared.

If, indeed, it is the aim of Dick Taverne, David Steel and others who think like them to make one party or remain permanently allied by such close ties that they are one party in all but name." He sees the Alliance as forming what he calls "the radical centre" — a phrase so meaningless that it must surely indicate some confusion of thought — and imagines that there are no ideological differences between liberals and social democrats.

Perhaps the statement of a few principles will make it plain that he is mistaken. A Liberal solution to a given problem is one which increases the freedom and responsibility of individuals. This applies everywhere and at all times. A liberal society would be one in which people cooperate in complete freedom, with full

which British politics so desperately needs.

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Proper names

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EDWARD GARDEN,
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January 12.

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Educative task for CND

From Mr Edward Leigh

Sir, In his response (December 24) to my recent report on civil defence deficiencies, the Vice-President of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, Lord Jenkins, professes willingness to spend "billions" of pounds on providing fall-out shelters for the British people. Yet he recommends this only if we cease to insist on having Soviet weapons targeted on us by targeting ours on the USSR." It is his opinion that civil defence is useless except for neutral countries (which may only have to cope with the incidental side-effects of direct nuclear attacks upon their neighbours).

If that is true, may I suggest to the CND that it has a major educational task to perform in the Soviet Union? The Russians take civil defence very seriously indeed, regardless of the fact that many Western nuclear weapons are targeted on their centres of population.

Thus, on December 1, Colonel Fedor Shevchenko in charge of the city's Civil Defence preparations, stated on Lvov radio that in 1982 the emphasis would be on "the practical training of the population in ways to protect themselves against weapons of mass destruction... There should not be a single installation in Lvov without a civil defence training point."

Of course it would be an unspeakable catastrophe to undergo the effects of a nuclear war, whatever the state of our home defences; but, if they are honest, the advocates of deterrence and unilateral disarmament alike have to admit that neither of their policies would rule out all prospect of this occurring. Nor is it even certain that a nuclear war, if it came, would take the form of an all-out strategic attack, as Lord Jenkins seems to take for granted.

The Russians, at least, have recognised that, however terrible the likely losses, large numbers of people would still survive and require succour and support. Civil defence measures would have a vital humanitarian task to perform. If the CND was as interested in protecting our people as it is in dismantling our defences, its spokesmen would have no difficulty in recognising this obvious fact.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD LEIGH,
Chairman, National Council for Civil Defence,
Cayzer House,
2 St Mary Axe, EC3.
January 12.

Blood and Grail

From Mr Geoffrey Grigson

Sir, It doesn't matter of course if writers write silly books for silly readers. It cannot be helped, anyhow. But it is dismaying when a publisher who has been servant to so many great writers descends to publishing such an extra-silly book as *The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail*; and it is dismaying that *The Times* feels it must play ball with such nonsense in a column and a half next to its leading articles (January 18).

You don't really need to go to bishops for assurance that such rubbish is rubbish, and I don't suppose that the show from Old New Printing House Square left you short of rubbish bins. So far so bad. But how ought we to describe the basic share of the BBC in promoting, in several programmes, an affront to reason as silly, if luckily not as dangerous, as the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion*? I know that the grand cultural aspirations carved in Latin in the foyer of Broadcasting House are contradicted over and over again by programme authorities, but to screen such silliness before millions of viewers is, whether cynical or no, disgusting.

Yours etc,
GEOFFREY GRIGSON,
Broad Town Farmhouse,
Broad Town, Swindon,
Wiltshire.

From Mr Malcolm Muggeridge

Sir, Having been asked to consider participating in a television programme on the book *The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail*, referred to in your issue of January 18, I had occasion to take a desultory look at it. The impression I formed was that, after much ardent endeavour by Christian leftists to present the founder of the Christian religion as the Honorable Member for Galilee South, here was a move to get him into Debrett. Yours sincerely,
MALCOLM MUGGERIDGE,
Park Cottage,
Robertsbridge,
Sussex.
January 18.

From Mr S. R. Gould

Sir, After Mr J. R. Waters's letter (January 11) it is only fair to remind readers of the tragic event which followed the capital's renaming, namely the so-called *Gesundheit* purge. Older readers will recall that when the party secretary announced the name-change to Przyszczyzna, two senior party politicians politely and promptly replied "*Gesundheit!*" and they, together with their families, were immediately incarcerated and were never heard from again.

The name of the party secretary has, alas, been lost to history following the withdrawal of volume "Czaz-Cazy" of the *Rutkowska People's Encyclopedia*. Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN R. GOULD,
50 Kingswood Road, SW19.
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Yalta Agreement in retrospect

From Mr Maurice Petherick and Sir Victor Raikes

Sir, As the mover and "winder-up" respectively of the motion, taken as one of "no confidence", in the House of Commons on February 28, 1945 challenging Mr Churchill's Government on the Yalta Agreement, perhaps you will allow us to reply to the confused letter of Professor S. E. Ambrose in your paper of January 15.

The victim of four partitions and countless invasions, the ancient, and formerly independent Poland was restored after the 1914-18 war. Its postwar frontiers were acknowledged by the rest of the world and guaranteed four times by the Russians. Britain and the Commonwealth and France entered the war in 1939 in Poland's defence.

At Yalta President Roosevelt

and Mr Churchill agreed to terms under which Poland was to lose to Russia nearly half its territory,

the third of its population and the ancient "Lion City" of Lvov. Also torn away from Poland were huge resources of timber and peat, half its grain, flax and hemp, 40 per cent of its oil and natural gas and a great part of its chemical industry, potassium mines and phosphates.

This shameful surrender to Stalin is ignored by Mr Ambrose.

He appears only to claim that the offence by the Russians was to

install as the new government of Poland the "Lublin Committee"

pledged to "free and unfettered elections", and that all that Solidarity is now demanding is

protection under that part of the Yalta Agreement. As we emphasised in the debate, the whole

of the Polish territory was handed over to the Soviet Union without the knowledge and approval of the Polish Government.

Thus, the skeleton in the cupboard is still there.

Yours faithfully,

Maurice Petherick,
Victor Raikes,
Portsmouth House,
St Austell,
Cornwall.
January 18.

for several weeks before putting down our motion, being reluctant to challenge our Government in wartime, we tried to find some overwhelming reason, unknown to us, which could justify so dire a breach of faith affecting not only Poland, but all the nations of central Europe and indeed the whole world. And every time we came to the conclusion that the Allied leaders believed that, unless they gave Stalin what he wanted, Russia would make a separate peace...

To this we replied, to ourselves, that although this might have been possible at the time of Stalingrad, when the Russians were nearly down and out, it was inconceivable that they would be so foolish as to do so when their great enemy, Hitlerite Germany, was on the point of collapse, thus giving it a chance of recovery.

So we believed then, and it has become clearer day by day since, that Yalta was not only a grievous betrayal but one of the most fatal errors of judgment in all history.

We are, Sir, your obedient servants,

MAURICE PETHERICK,
VICTOR RAIKES,
Portsmouth House,
St Austell,
Cornwall.
January 18.

From Mrs Wanda Jordan

Sir, In connection with the article "Moscow and Poland: don't let Yalta cloud the issue" by David Watt (January 15), may I recall another conference at Teheran in November, 1943, at which half of the Polish territory was handed over to the Soviet Union without the knowledge and approval of the Polish Government.

As we emphasised in the debate, the whole

of the Polish territory was handed over to the Soviet Union without the knowledge and approval of the Polish Government.

Thus, the skeleton in the cupboard is still there.

Yours faithfully,

J. J. FASLER,
J. S. GREENER,
Consultant Physicians in
Geriatric Medicine,
The West Suffolk Hospital,
Hardwick Lane,
Bury St Edmunds,
Suffolk.
January 14.

The old and cold at risk

From Dr J. J. Fasler and Dr J. S. Green

Sir, The comments by the Norwich District Coroner (report, January 14) on the four cases of elderly people dying at home in the cold weather illustrate the pressures on doctors and local authorities to remove elderly people from their homes against their will when they are considered to be "at risk" or live in squalid conditions.

If the persons concerned are demented or confused and unable to look after their own interests there is usually no problem in obtaining a compulsory admission order under the Mental Health Act, but if they are of sound mind and state, as did one of the women who died, I am not worried about

SOCIAL NEWS

The Queen will open the new Headquarters of the British Institute of Radiology at 36 Portland Place, London, W1, on February 11.

The Prince of Wales, Patron, the Press Club, will attend the centenary banquet at the International Press Centre, 76 Shoe Lane, EC4, on February 10.

Princess Anne, will visit HMS Amazon at Devonport Dockyard, Plymouth, on February 12.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr E. de Cory Bryant and Miss F. M. Newton

The engagement is announced between Edward, elder son of Mr and Mrs E. J. Bryant of Stradishall, Suffolk, and Frances, elder daughter of the late Dr G. C. F. Newton and of Mrs K. E. Newton, of Headington, Oxford.

Mr W. H. Corn and Miss F. J. E. Foster

The engagement is announced between William, son of the late Mr John Corn and of Mrs C. S. Cheshire, of Barlaston, Staffordshire, and Françoise, daughter of Mr and Mrs Pierre Fostroy, of Liege, Belgium.

Mr S. P. Mallet and Miss S. M. Hamilton

The engagement is announced between Stephen, son of Mr and Mrs P. L. V. Mallet, of Wittersham House, near Teathered, Kent, and Sophie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Hamilton, of 31 Chancery View Road, Guildford, Surrey.

Mr W. H. D. Paton and Miss J. M. Buchanan

The engagement is announced between Hugh, son of Mr and Mrs William Paton, of Mosborough, Yorkshire, and Julia, daughter of Mr and Mrs Hamish Buchanan, of Wellington, New Zealand.

Luncheons

HM Government

Mr Humphrey Atkins, Lord Privy Seal, was host at a luncheon given at Lancaster House yesterday in honour of Herr Franz Karasek, Secretary-General of the Council of Europe.

HM Government

Lord Trefgarne, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at luncheon held by the Inter-Parliamentary Union at Lancaster House yesterday.

Rotary Club of London

Mr Douglas Sime, president, and members of the Rotary Club of London entertained General Jarl Wahstrom, Salvation Army, at luncheon at the Cafe Royal yesterday.

Building Societies Association

The President of the Building Societies Association, the Earl of Selkirk, gave a luncheon at the Park Street, London, W1 yesterday. The other hosts were Mr. J. A. Cumming, chairman, Mr. R. S. Weir, secretary-general, Mr Cyril English and Mr J. F. Richardson. The guests were Mr Leon Brittan, MP, Lord Nelson of Bradford, Mr E. J. Fountain and Mr Donald Trelford.

Company of Watermen and Lightermen

The court of the Company of Watermen and Lightermen of the River Thames gave a luncheon at Watermen's Hall yesterday. The Master, Mr C. J. Blacker, presided and others present included the Senior Warden, Mr Alderman Christopher Rawson, the Junior Wardens, Mr A. C. Clarke-Kennedy and Mr D. J. Piper, and Lord MacLean; Mr Roger Moate, MP, and Mr V. G. Page.

Dinners

Sigismondo Cagati

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester attended a dinner given in their honour by the Italian Ambassador and Signora Sigrid Cagati at the Italian Embassy last night. Other guests were: The Lord Privy Seal and Mrs Humphrey Atkins, the Ambassador of the Republic of Germany and Frau Dr. Dr. Egon Ambassador and Mrs Abu-Seda, the Turkish Ambassador and Mme Gumrakoglu, the Duke and Duchess of Westminster, Lord and Lady Abercrombie, Lord and Lady Caccia, Mrs Dennis Healey, CH, MP, and Mr Peter Blacker, MP, Mr. Peter Blacker, Sir Charles and Lady Forte, Sir Robin and Lady Lane, Mr William Benyon, MP, and Mrs Benyon, Mr and Mrs Chapman Pincher, Mr and Mrs Donald Sinden, Countess Sefton, Sir John and Signorina Fontana Giusti.

British Standards Institution

Professor Sir Frederick Warner, president of the British Standards Institution, who is at a farewell dinner at Goldsmiths' Hall last night given in honour of Dr G. B. R. Feilden recently retired director general.

The Duke of Gloucester, as patron, will attend a court luncheon of the Potters' Company at Brook's Club, St James's Street, London, on February 11.

The Prince of Wales, Patron, the Press Club, will attend the centenary banquet at the International Press Centre, 76 Shoe Lane, EC4, on February 10.

Princess Anne, will visit HMS Amazon at Devonport Dockyard, Plymouth, on February 12.

Mr J. N. Jayner and Miss M. K. Stevenson
The engagement is announced between Nigel Jeremy, eldest son of Mr and Mrs F. J. Hickman, of Hickman Farm, Littleworth Common, Buckinghamshire, and Margaret Krystyna, daughter of Mr and Mrs C. A. E. T. Stevenson, of The Compasses, Woolbeding Common, Buckinghamshire, and of New York, United States.

Mr E. Voelcker and Miss S. Behrens
The engagement is announced between John Gerald, youngest son of Mr E. Voelcker, of Five Ashes, Sutton, and Mrs. S. Voelcker, and Samantha, daughter of Mr and Mrs W. Behrens, of Homegarth, Swinton Grange, Malton, Yorkshire.

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THE ARTS

John Heilpern reports from New York on 'Brideshead Revisited'

English nostalgia conquers America

Britain's cultural colonization of America continues apace. The first showing of *Brideshead Revisited* on United States television this week was promoted "with the remorseless stealth of a hunting cannibal" as Mr Waugh wrote in *The Loved One* about the promotion of an exotic perfume called Jungle Venom.

Exhorted to enter "the very upstairs world of *Brideshead Revisited*", Americans possessing a Jamesian Anglophilic have certainly done so. The two-hour premiere of the series has been a resounding success, thus confirming that only Americans can be nostalgic about England's past as the English.

Brideshead now joins such popular television exports to America as *The Forsyte Saga*, *Upstairs, Downstairs*, *The Duchess of Duke Street* and *Edward & Mrs Simpson*. Americans should be forgiven for having an image of Britain, produced by Britain, as a country that somehow began in Edwardian times and stopped at Oxbridge circa the 1920s.

The success in the United States of *Monty Python* and *Fawlty Towers* updates the image a little, though only to the extent that we are also seen in America as a nation of lunatics.

Brideshead Revisited ("made possible by a grant from Exxon") is being shown on the Public Broadcasting Service, a version of BBC American-style that is supported by the big oil companies (begged-for public subsidies) and Federal subsidies (soon to be severely cut back). The blessing is that it has none of the commercial network's mass advertising that hits the dazed viewer as fast as blizzards in winter. *Brideshead Revisited*, and other prestige British exports such as David Attenborough's *Life On Earth*, are instrumental in Public Television's battle to survive in America, after its own fashion.

As is the custom, *Brideshead* was packaged and hosted with due cultural solemnity. *Upstairs, Downstairs*, first packaged as Masterpiece Theatre in the US, was hosted by Alistair

From the promotion brochure for the debut of *Brideshead Revisited*

Cooke who delivered American TV's equivalent to the vicar's sermon first told viewers what they were about to see, and when all was done, he told them what they had seen.

To the mystery of all, *Rumpole of the Bailey* was released on Public TV in a series entitled *Mystery*, and was therefore hosted by Vincent Price sitting in what looked like Pricilla's library. *Brideshead Revisited*, packaged as Great Performances, is hosted by William F. Buckley Jr, the political columnist, perhaps on the grounds that, as Mr Buckley

"One of the most extravagantly beautiful mini-series you will ever see. Homosexuality was endemic; some

Last night's television

The discoveries too good to be true

Poor Schliemann. Not only did he fake the discovery of Priam's treasure during a convenient lunch hour in his excavations of Troy, but he never wrote his thesis in Classical Greek at Rostock. He never met the President in Washington and he missed seeing the San Francisco fire of 1851 by a month although he claimed to have done all these things in his diary. What he did do was buy gold dust in Sacramento, short-change the bankers on the coast, and cover the tracks of his entire life so elaborately that it has taken one hundred years even to begin sussing him out. All this, a jolly shrink explained

in Roy Davies's film for *Chronicle* (BBC 2) was because his father was a bullying German pastor and inside the famous archaeologist was a little boy trying to get out and his back by telling enormous fibs. Ladies and gentlemen on Swan Hellenic Tours said he was a great man if a bit crazy — well, you had to dig deep in 1873 to find anything at all and among other ideas floated by Scots and American classicists in the course of a riveting programme were that Schliemann had assembled the treasure, from various sources and sites, in Athens itself, and that the theatricality of his methods as a pioneer of publicity

is both a Conservative and a Catholic, he was the ideal man for the job. He is also an Anglophile.

The American press greeted *Brideshead* as ecstatically as the British, though with an occasional self-lacerating edge. "The best series ever seen on American television and it is, needless to say, not American," wrote the *Washington Post*. "A magnificent achievement" — the *Los Angeles Times*.

"One of the most extravagantly beautiful mini-series

you will ever see. Homosexuality was endemic; some

might say epidemic, at Oxford in the 1920s, and the frank presentation of this atmosphere in *Brideshead Revisited* may repel some viewers. Other than that..." — the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

And more: "A must-see. Compelling. Even better than curling up with a good book" — the *New York's Daily News*. "Truly special. Outstanding. Incredible. Lavish. The casting is unfailingly inspired, from the major roles to the innumerable passing cameos that the British seem to toss off with enviable ease" — the *New York Times*. Though the

NY Times review also noted that "This 13-hour production begins to sag quite noticeably about halfway through," it added "for the time being, anyone interested in Waugh or in splendid television should not miss the first several hours of this extraordinary presentation."

The normal ratings for Public TV were doubled and in some areas tripled for the premiere of *Brideshead*.

On the night of the premiere, producer Derek Granger of Granada Television, the mastermind behind the production, spent quiet evening in Manhattan watching *Brideshead* with English friends. Charles Sturridge, its young director, was showing it off in Hollywood, although the ghost of Evelyn Waugh would have disapproved. In contrast, our Ambassador to America remained safely in the Washington Embassy, and both Sir Nicholas Henderson and Lady Henderson were glued most happily to the box.

What does Sir Nicholas think of America's reaction to *Brideshead*? "Americans love it, of course," he tells me. "They may find it a side of us that will possibly irritate them a little while it certainly intrigues them. A kind of English snobbery and grandeur, the sybaritic qualities. We have a knack of turning such things into an art form. The success of *Brideshead* probably confirms America's fond view of British eccentricity. On the other hand, it's like people being fascinated by the devil."

What Evelyn Waugh would have thought is not, however, a matter of conjecture. When the wife of an American theatre producer told him that *Brideshead Revisited* was one of the best books she had ever read, he replied: "I thought it was good myself, but now that I know that a vulgar, common American woman like yourself admires it, I am not so sure". Absolutely disgraceful, of course. But Mr Waugh, as is well known, did not take kindly either to Americans or to America — or indeed to the invention of television.

It is ironic that, at the exact time that Flora was recoiling in horror from the grisly torture instruments displayed in *Newgate Prison*, her English counterpart Elizabeth Fry was having much the same experience in France. Flora boldly marched into gin palaces, brothels, mental asylums and factories to inspect and question everything that went on. She even managed to gain entry to the Houses of Parliament by dressing as a Turk. This book would hardly be popular with the ardent patriot, unless he happened to be barefoot and starving, for Flora finds little to commend in the English people. From her observations in a London brothel she concluded that "the sober English gentleman is chaste to the point of prudery", and she bitterly condemned the hypocrisy and self-satisfaction of the aristocracy. Her genuine horror on finding so much starvation and disease in London behind the facade of prosperity and content shows through strongly in her acutely descriptive and compassionate narrative.

Flora notes with ill-concealed smugness that Londoners, unlike the French, have to have their pockets made so that they open from underneath their coat-tails because of the large number of pickpockets in the city. But her own summing-up of her visits pinpoints the piteous state of affairs in "the monster city" when, after bemoaning the misery of the poor and the antipathy of the rich towards them, she laments that "the foreigner will scour the British metropolis vain, for he will find no fried potatoes or roast chestnuts!"

The author, perhaps wisely, does not attempt to

Caroline Moorehead

Maria Callas, by Arianna Stassinopoulos (Hamlyn, £1.75)

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BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY BELL'S

Stock Exchange Prices

Equities mark time

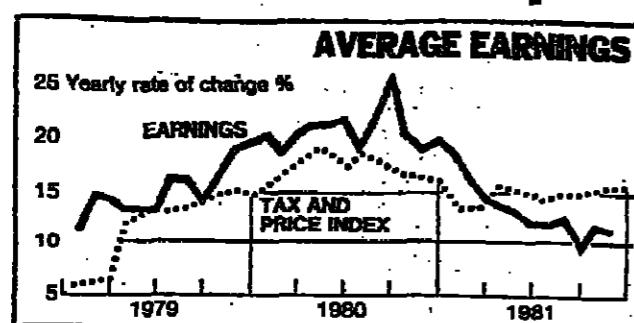
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 11. Dealings End Jan 22. 5 Contango Day Jan 25. Settlement Day, Feb 1.

\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

1981/82 High Low Stock		Int. Gross Price Chg'ge Yield Yield		1981/82 High Low Company		Gross Price Chg'ge pence % P/E		1981/82 High Low Company		Gross Price Chg'ge pence % P/E		1981/82 High Low Company		Gross Price Chg'ge pence % P/E		1981/82 High Low Company		Gross Price Chg'ge pence % P/E			
BRITISH FUNDS																					
SHORTS		Treas	147.00	182.00	99.7%	14.022	14.765	AAH	6.7	7.9	6.5	54	Gloves Grp	35	12.0	7.3	35.7	54	Taylor Woodrow	558	
9671	9672	Exch	94.00	102.00	98.5%	8.457	14.341	AAC	1.0	1.0	1.0	55	Gill & Davies	ML	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	55	British Insur	261
9673	9674	Exch	94.00	102.00	98.5%	8.457	14.341	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	56	Glass Glover	108	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	56	Tesco	262
9675	9676	Exch	94.00	102.00	98.5%	8.457	14.341	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	57	Glassman Ind	104	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	57	Thor East Ltd	127
9677	9678	Exch	94.00	102.00	98.5%	8.457	14.341	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	58	Glenlivet	107	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	58	Tilbury Cont	117
9679	9680	Treas	129.00	132.00	99.3%	8.348	10.855	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	59	Gordon & Gotsch	146	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	59	Mitsubishi Corp	128
9681	9682	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	60	Gordon L. Gott	146	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	60	Mitsubishi	129
9683	9684	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	61	Grenada's A	228	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	61	Morgan Cruc	130
9685	9686	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	62	Grindlays PLC	428	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	62	Muirhead	131
9687	9688	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	63	Gripperode	120	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	63	NCC News	132
9689	9690	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	64	Hall T. Grp	137	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	64	Neil J. David	133
9691	9692	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	65	Hall Eng	202	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	65	Newmark	134
9693	9694	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	66	Haima Ltd	97	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	66	News Int	135
9695	9696	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	67	Hanover Inv	421	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	67	Turner New	136
9697	9698	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	68	Hansons Trust	223	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	68	Unilever	137
9699	9700	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	69	Hawkins & Sons	124	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	69	Valeo	138
9701	9702	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	70	Hawkins T. Son	224	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	70	Waddington Ref	139
9703	9704	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	71	Hawkins S. & T.	224	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	71	Goldfield's A.A.	140
9705	9706	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	72	Hawkins S. & T.	224	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	72	Hawkins Gold	141
9707	9708	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	73	Hawkins S. & T.	224	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	73	Hawkins Min	142
9709	9710	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	74	Hawkins S. & T.	224	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	74	Hawkins Plc	143
9711	9712	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	75	Hawkins S. & T.	224	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	75	Hawkins Plc	144
9713	9714	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	76	Hawkins S. & T.	224	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	76	Hawkins Plc	145
9715	9716	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	77	Hawkins S. & T.	224	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	77	Hawkins Plc	146
9717	9718	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	78	Hawkins S. & T.	224	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	78	Hawkins Plc	147
9719	9720	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	79	Hawkins S. & T.	224	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	79	Hawkins Plc	148
9721	9722	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	80	Hawkins S. & T.	224	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	80	Hawkins Plc	149
9723	9724	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	81	Hawkins S. & T.	224	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	81	Hawkins Plc	150
9725	9726	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	82	Hawkins S. & T.	224	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	82	Hawkins Plc	151
9727	9728	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	83	Hawkins S. & T.	224	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	83	Hawkins Plc	152
9729	9730	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	84	Hawkins S. & T.	224	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	84	Hawkins Plc	153
9731	9732	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	85	Hawkins S. & T.	224	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	85	Hawkins Plc	154
9733	9734	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0	1.0	86	Hawkins S. & T.	224	+0.1	12.0	7.3	35.7	86	Hawkins Plc	155
9735	9736	Exch	102.00	105.00	98.5%	8.777	11.455	AAE	1.0	1.0											

BUSINESS NEWS

Wages rise 11.3 pc



Average earnings in the year to November rose by 11.3 per cent, the Department of Employment said yesterday. The underlying rate of increase was about 11 per cent, the same as in the previous three months. Lower pay deals now being concluded — reported by the Confederation of British Industry — have yet to feed into the figures.

Business Editor page 17

St Aubyn's £20m loss

The gilts losses at City discount house Smith St Aubyn were £20m. Details of the losses, showing that Smith lost £14m after releasing £6m of deferred tax from its hidden reserves, have emerged in the circular to shareholders explaining the £2.7m emergency rights issue announced two weeks ago. Earlier outside estimates put the losses at about £15m in the nine months from April 5 to December 31, 1981.

Shipyard closure threat

British Shipbuilders could close down the Vosper ship repair yard in Southampton unless unions agreed to changes in working practices there, Mr Robert Atkinson, chairman of BS told the Commons Select Committee on Trade and Industry yesterday. The warning came during a series of sharp exchanges between Mr Atkinson and Mr Robin Maxwell Hyslop MP for Tiverton (Con) over the losses of BS's ship repair division.

ICI may shed 1,300 jobs

Imperial Chemical Industries announced cutbacks in plastics and petrochemicals yesterday which may involve up to 1,300 jobs.

Research and technical services are the most likely areas for the axe at ICI's divisional headquarters at Welwyn Garden City in Hertfordshire. Phased over two years, the cuts are aimed at stemming losses in plastics and petrochemicals which totalled £79m in 1980.

BP Chemicals is heading for losses of about £160m this year. Rumours of closures were dismissed as "pure speculation".

Retirement no

Cutting male retirement to 60 would be too expensive, the Confederation of British Industry decided yesterday. Instead, proposals will be developed for flexible retirement, allowing for retirement above 65 in trades with skill shortages.

MARKET SUMMARY

Special situations interest

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 545.8 down 0.1
FT Gilts 63.65 up 0.04
FT all-share 314.78 up 0.22
Bargains 18,500

While dealers were mainly able to overcome the problems associated with the rail strike, the effect on turnover was unmistakable.

The FT Index fell after Tuesday's strong run and closed 0.1 down at 545.8.

Investors with one eye on the journey home kept their shopping lists, while others instead again centred on specialist situations.

Broker Hoare Govett won in the market picking up a further 750,000 shares in Thomas W Ward for RTZ, it now holds around 41 per cent of acceptances already received. The offer closes on January 26.

A strange tussle took place in shares of London & Provincial Trust, part of the Robert Fleming stable, which recently announced plans to merge with London & Montrouge Investments. Trust Broker Laing & crustank made a down raid on behalf of investment intelligence (Intel) and bought 4.3 million shares or 13.75 per cent of

the equity in an apparent attempt to block the merger.

At present the shares are fairly tightly held with the Kuwait Investment Office having 8.5 per cent, Scottish Widows 8.5 per cent, and Save & Prosper 7.1 per cent.

Eagle Star closed unchanged at 334p, after 341p, following denials from the West German insurance group Allianz Versicherungen which holds 29 per cent, that it had increased its stake or intended to in the future. Speculation that Allianz intended to bid for the remainder of the shares in June has added 27p to the price of Eagle in the past week.

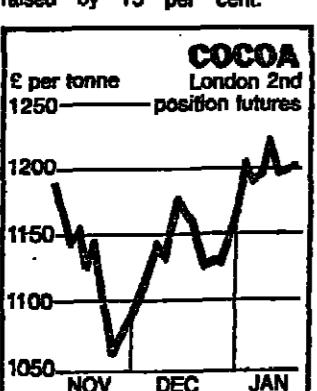
Broker Scrimgeour Kemp Greig is keen on the footwear industry. Among those it mentions as a buy are Ward White, down 1p to 53p for its recovery prospects and Church, up 8p to 178p. Earlier this week Church sold its R.P. Ellen subsidiary but, this should prove too late to save last year's figures, due out soon, which should show a decline from 22m to 21.85m.

The Swiss were big sellers of Anglo American Gold, placing one million shares at 20.000 francs between five different brokers. The price tumbled 22.11/16 to 23.15/16.

Michael Clark

COMMODITIES

• Tin consumers rejected a producer proposal at yesterday's meeting of the International Tin Council that intervention prices be raised by 15 per cent.



CURRENCIES

• The dollar was firm on the back of higher New York interest rates and the expectation of lower European interest rates.

Sterling \$1.8845, down 105 points index 108.1 up 0.4 DM 3057 up 152 points Gold \$373.00 down \$2.50

MONEY MARKETS

• Period rates eased further on the view that the authorities will not oppose a lower level of interest rates. The Bank bought Band 1 bills at 14% per cent, down from 14½ per cent on Tuesday.

Domestic rates: Base rates 14% 3-month interbank 15-14%

Euro-currency rates: 3-month dollar 14% 14% 3-month DM 10% 10% 3-month Fr.F 15% 15%

TODAY

Cynical indicators for the United Kingdom economy Consumer spending (4th quarter 1981) Institutional investment (3rd quarter 1981) Trafalgar House AGM

Tough line from Howe for Japan and US

By Melvyn Westlake

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor publicly told the Japanese yesterday, that it must deflate its economy, and let the yen rise on the world money markets. In one of his toughest speeches for some time Sir Geoffrey said that he was concerned that Tokyo's recent budget proposals were deflationary, rather than expansionary.

The Chancellor also made it clear that he expected the Reagan Administration to get its budget deficit under control. There will be lower and more stable interest rates, as well as greater currency stability, if the Americans can convince the Japanese of the determination to put their budget deficit back on a declining trend the Chancellor said.

In addressing the need to get United States interest rates down, Sir Geoffrey was picking up the theme of last weekend's Paris meeting of the finance ministers and central bankers from the Group of Five the leading industrial nations. A concerted effort to boost the flagging world economy through lower interest rates appears to have been broadly agreed by those attending the meeting.

The burgeoning American

budget deficit is seen by many as the main impediment to lower worldwide interest rates. M. Jacques Delanoë, French Economic Affairs Minister, told Mr Donald Regan, the United

States Treasury Secretary, at the Paris meeting, that the American economy was suffering the consequences of strict monetary policy, and lax and contradictory budgetary policy.

In a parallel development, Count Otto Lambsdorff, West German Economics Minister, said yesterday that he expected the Bundesbank to lower interest rates further "in the foreseeable future".

This gave it room to boost the level of domestic demand within its economy, he said. In London, the Bank of England again lowered the rate at which it bought short-term bills from the discount houses, this time to 14 per cent.

The feeling is growing that the authorities are steadily allowing the markets to move towards a level that will permit a small reduction in bank base rates and possibly mortgage rates too. But the trend however is still a cautious one, with most bankers keen to see a sharper decline in money market rates before they consider lowering their lending rates.



De Lorean pins hopes on loan breakthrough

By Rupert Morris

The future of the De Lorean car company and its 2,600 employees was in doubt again yesterday as Mr John De Lorean, the chairman, argued with Government officials in Belfast about further state aid.

The factory at Dunmurry, Belfast, has halved output to 200 cars a week, with nearly 500 night-shift workers idle for pay. It is the second week of short-time working in response to a sudden and dramatic decline in demand in the United States, where all the cars are sold.

Meanwhile, Mr Gerald Ronson's Heron Corporation, trying to outbid Mr Holmes' a'Court for ACC disclosed it had bought some non-voting shares in the group for the first time.

It paid 70p for 2,000 shares. Heron's £42.5m pro-

posals value the non-voters at 75.5p against the 60p being offered by Mr Holmes' a'Court.

Government backing beyond the £15m guarantees announced in the House of Commons on Tuesday now depends on reviews of state representation on the company's board, and an independent assessment of its performance and prospects.

The latest guarantees take the total amount of government money committed to De Lorean to £100m. But the appointment of independent consultants to assess the company's viability marks a radical change in attitude on the Government's part.

This became clear yesterday as Mr De Lorean went back to consult his board after a two-hour meeting at the plant with officials from the Northern Ireland Development Agency and the Northern Ireland Office.

There was no official comment after that meeting.

Since output of the unique sports car with the gull-wing doors began exactly a year ago, De Lorean has provoked praise from the Belfast region, which desperately needed the jobs; suspicion, as allegations of financial malpractice were leveled but then disproved, and finally disillusionment as the financial problems mounted.

The problems began in December when Mr De Lorean ran into the first signs of government opposition to his demands for grants and guarantees.

Then he proposed share issue in the United States originally intended to raise \$28m (£15m), but reduced to \$12m was indefinitely postponed because of market conditions.

Demand for the car, which was at one time selling for well above the list price, plummeted to the point where buyers could not be assured even with substantial discounts. Dealers suffering from the recession in the car market could not afford to hold any more De Loreans.

Most important, the Export Credits Guarantee Department has balked at De Lorean's demand for guarantees for loans totalling £36m between now and March.

The department will not discuss its financial dealings with clients, but it is understood that it was not satisfied

that De Lorean was "re-coupe worthy" in the event of a contract falling down and the bank wishing to recover some of its loan.

The Northern Ireland Development Agency, which holds nearly £18m of De Lorean equity, but only two seats on the board, could in theory have provided the necessary guarantees for the department.

But as Mr Kenneth Bloomfield, Permanent Secretary at the Northern Ireland Department of Commerce, will have told Mr De Lorean yesterday, that would simply have been passing responsibility from one government department to another.

Mr De Lorean's case has not been helped by the disclosure that "performance bonuses" totalling £400,000 were to be awarded to the company's executives, including £4,000 to Mr De Lorean himself. He has since said that the money would not be paid until the company had solved its financial problems.

The Government's tough stance means it will be up to Mr De Lorean to offer some new assurance — more seats on the board at least — to be sure of the money he needs.

But Mr De Lorean retains one all-important negotiating advantage: how vital his factory is to the maintenance of stability in one of the poorest and most potentially turbulent areas of Belfast.

page 17

ACC rejects Jetsave buy-back

By Derek Harris and Philip Robinson

A management buy-back offer of less than £3m to Associated Communications Corporation (ACC) for Jetsave, its transatlantic package holidays operation, was rejected yesterday.

This announcement from Mr Robert Holmes a'Court, who has launched an agreed bid for ACC, was followed however by statement from Mr Reg Pycroft, Jetsave's chairman: "I am determined to bring the company out and hope to reach an amicable agreement."

Mr Pycroft built up Jetsave as a market leader and in 1980 sold an 85 per cent stake to ACC for just under £3m.

"No main board director at ACC ever came down to Jetsave's headquarters at East Grinstead," said Mr

Pycroft, who said he still admired Lord Grade.

"ACC as a parent company clearly does not have sufficient interest or resources to contribute to Jetsave's development," he added.

Meanwhile, Mr Gerald Ronson's Heron Corporation, trying to outbid Mr Holmes a'Court for ACC disclosed it had bought some non-voting shares in the group for the first time.

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Defaulters cost group £5m

By Michael Prest

Defaults by customers, some of them governments, cost Tate & Lyle's sugar trading more than £5m last year, the company said yesterday.

Tate & Lyle, which has undergone considerable changes in recent years, is currently loss-making, and records anti-tapes, but the £4.2m rental income from its property side indicates that this could be worth at least £5m.

Even though all these assets are making no money, and taking the debt burden into account, ACC's predators look as though they will be covering the purchase price with plenty to spare.

The company has paid more attention to its cane sugar production and refining. The Liverpool refinery was closed last year and the site given to the government. Partly as a result, operating profits from

the United Kingdom sugar refining rose from £5.6m to £9.4m. Profits from the whole sugar refining division were £24.5m compared with £17.4m.

Profits in molasses trading, storage and distribution, were depressed by lower prices to £10.6m from £15m.

Demand for sugar in Britain has been declining by about 2 per cent a year and the EEC sugar regime favours beet against cane. But Lord Jellicoe, Tate & Lyle's chairman, said the company had a renewed confidence in the United Kingdom sugar refining.

Citizens Band Radio

The boom that never was

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Demand for citizens band (CB) radio kits has tailed off and present moderate sales are leading electrical retailers to write down this new sector as the 'boom' that never was.

The first weeks after CB was legalized by the Home Office at the beginning of November saw many retailers unable to meet demand and supplies of kits were being air-freighted in from Far East manufacturers.

But sales were flagging even before Christmas, with CB licences standing at 100,000 by the end of December. Sales estimates of up to five million units in the first year have been scaled down to around one million creating a market worth £125m.

As things have turned out CB has settled down to a steady line of additional business," said Mr Alan Sugar, chairman of London-based Amstrad, one of the biggest importers of CB radios. Amstrad has been sceptical from the beginning that the January sales appear to have been moving stock out of the retailers.

Amstrad's order book now goes into February, with mail order companies — currently sending out their new catalogues — adding a fillip to trade.

Some customers had been

prepared to pay well over the odds for ACC's extensive library.

Less easily realizable assets include the theatres, which are currently loss-making, and records anti-tapes, but the £4.2m rental income from

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI

Touch the lion and think of Germany

Money luck — that is what the Chinese say a mere touch of the British lions outside the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation's head-office building confers. It remains to be seen if any is forthcoming from this week's meeting between Mr Michael Sandberg, the group chairman, and Mr Gordon Richardson, the governor of the Bank of England. The Monopolies Commission rejection of the bid for Royal Bank of Scotland seemed very final.

But HSBC did trail the tempting clue that it would be ready to consider an acquisition elsewhere in Europe. The board has not said no to suggestions of Germany.

HSBC takes Chinese fortune telling very seriously. A "shui feng" man gave instructions for the lions to be moved out of line outside the new building, and all the main board directors flew into Hongkong to touch the lions at dawn on opening day at his instructions. Lacking

that sort of line on Germany, prospects must be considered on a slide-rule approach.

Germany would be the easiest market in which to buy a major internationally known bank, one of the attractions of the Royal Bank of Scotland. That is unless the Bundesbank says no.

In Holland and Switzerland, in theory other potential areas of expansion, the banks and insurance companies would probably get together in the incestuously close markets and lock out a bid.

Foreign money has been allowed into Germany in other areas — bits of Krupp, Daimler-Benz and Deutsche Babcock went to OPEC interests. The Chinese link is not as strategic, but the wealth of the colony might look attractive to a central bank whose banking system is ailing under the pressure of Polish debt burden and high interest rates.

Sally White



Mr Michael Sandberg: Time to buy a German bank?

GESTETNER

Payout cut as profits plummet

Gestetner, the ailing stencil, duplicating and copying group run by co-chairmen Messrs David and Jonathan Gestetner, has not lost its knack of disappointing the stock market on every count. Turnover rose by only 6 per cent to £279.8m in the year to last October, and after charging directly against profits redundancy and other rationalization costs of £1.8m, against £525,000, and interest charges £539,000 up at £5.37m, pretax profits of £15.9m fell to £6.2m, which, adjusted for inflation, became losses of £6.7m. Many European subsidiaries went into losses on which there was no tax relief so that historic total after tax profits all but vanished at £72,000.

The real net loss was £12.16m. Not, surprisingly,

the gross dividend halves to 3.75p.

The disappointment was not just with the annual figures, though the second-half profits slump was if anything faster than in the first six months, and 1977's healthy £30m pretax profit now looks remote.

There are doubts about the management, whose control is perpetuated by a two-tier share structure through which the Gestetner family control more than half the votes. The co-chairmen take turns in the executive chair, and the impression of a cosy, if not costive family business is not allayed by a stout refusal to enfranchise the voteless shares, or by the misfortunes of Associated Communications Corporation.

There are doubts about the scope of the steps being taken to remedy profitability. The key Tottenham factory lost £3m last year. The chairman says: "Action has been taken and continues to be taken to improve levels of productivity". The United Kingdom labour force has on average dropped from 4,400 to 3,600 over the past year, while the volume of business was unchanged.

and is smaller now. But the full productivity gains sought by management are not being won and there is an impression outside the group that cost-cutting has been half-hearted.

Streamlining and partial loss-elimination abroad — the pound has moved in Gestetner's favour — could optimistically indicate pretax profits of 10m this year (before possible further redundancy expenses).

But yesterday's 6p fall to 50p in the voteless shares reflects the view that the group's time as a lively situation stock has not yet come. Conceivably, only the abolition of voteless equity or a precipitous slide into a financial morass could turn it into one.

The principle subsidiary, James Austin and Sons (Dewsbury), performed better than expected because poor demand for steel in the UK was offset by increased exports. Several valuable orders for processed steels were also obtained. Prices have risen by around 15 per cent since the start of the year, and this will cause initial resistance from customers.

West Valley Steels, bought for £350,000 cash last March

Sales were £7.74m, against £7.77m last year.

Mr Ronald Hooker, the chairman, says the recession has not ended and until there is an economic recovery in the United States, world trade will be slow to recover.

"Nevertheless, there has been some sign of improvement in the past few months in the UK market and if this continues, it is certain that our trade will benefit", he said.

An unchanged dividend of 2.38p gross is being paid.

Mr Hooker said the group's financial position was still strong and a useful contribution from interest on bank deposits had been received in the period.

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West Valley Steels, bought for £350,000 cash last March

traded at a loss in the half year.

Another main subsidiary, Austin Structural Engineers, suffered more severely than expected with orders scarce and prices at an abysmally low level, said Mr Hooker. A serious loss in the half-year had made its future very uncertain and the board had decided to re-structure the company and operate at a reduced level concentrating on steel fabrication.

The cost of redundancies would be about £160,000 and would be charged as an exceptional item in the annual accounts.

The shares fell by 3p to 65p.

ANGLIA TELEVISION

A small rise in profits for the year to October was made by Anglia Television Group, the IBA contractors for the East

of England headed by Lord Townshend, which produces and exports *Survival* and *Tales of the Unexpected*, and also makes *Sale of the Century*. Yesterday it announced only a small profit increase for the year to October, from £4.6m to £4.7m. Sales increased from £32m to £37m. Earnings per share fell to 20.54p from 28.01p.

The Exchequer levy, charged on all commercial TV companies, fell from £3.3m to £1.8m, but the tax charge rose from £859,000 to £1.88m, mainly as a result of a cut in the benefit of capital allowances for expenditure on fixed assets and programmes.

Depreciation and amortization charges increased from £1.14m to £2.2m as a result of revaluation of freehold property and technical and other equipment. The surplus on revaluation was £3.5m from which deferred tax charge of £1.8m was deducted. On a current cost basis the operating profit was up from £798,000 to £1.09m.

A final dividend, up from 4.28p gross to 5.42p gross on the A shares, takes the total payout for the year to 8.57p gross from 7.14p gross.

Mr David McCall, director, said buoyant advertising sales in the last quarter of the year, increased programme sales overseas and a

TATE & LYLE

Boardroom grip gives £5m boost

Tate & Lyle has not been a stock market favourite of late, but that is — or should be — changing. Profits probably up 25.6 per cent to £26.3m, the result of much tighter management and, what is more, they came from the company's core operations of cane sugar production and refining, commodity trading and molasses. These businesses contributed £44.7m collectively to trading profits of £54.7m.

Rationalization has been a key word in the new management's vocabulary, and the effects of closures are clearly seen in the politically-sensitive United Kingdom cane sugar refining. After closing Liverpool, and investing heavily at Thameside, trading profits were £2.4m against £5.8m.

Part of the increase is attributable to a write-back after excessive provision at the end of last year, but there can be no doubt that United Kingdom refining operations are looking healthy.

North America is the area of greatest promise, and if this year goes well a further expansion, particularly in the United States, is very likely.

Sentiment has cooled towards British Aerospace since its issue, and there has been worry about the vast

BRITISH AEROSPACE

Don't panic over Laker rumour

British Aerospace shareholders should not panic at the news leaking out from the Laker Airways rescue operation that all of Sir Freddie Laker's European Airbuses may end up on the market. The banks are taking a tough approach.

Laker has three A300s in the fleet, which may have to be sold at the end of the summer season. Seven more A300s are on order. But \$500m (£264m) or so worth of Airbuses are nothing in the total Airbus market. There are 505 of the aircraft on order — 347 firm orders and 159 on option. Takers are likely to be available in these conditions for both the new and used aircraft.

No profits have been taken by British Aerospace from the Airbus project since the late 1970s. The British have 20 per cent of Airbus. The question is whether or not British Aerospace can afford to go in. It has presented the Government with three options.

• That it take a 30 per cent stake, which would cost £500m. Then it could develop the nose, forward fuselage and instrumentation, final assembly and flight development.

• That it take a 20 per cent stake to design the wings and manufacture them, and the wing boxes. This would cost £400m.

• That it should provide the rear fuselage/tail unit. That is also a £400m project.

Pretax losses for the six months to June 30, 1981 were cut from £53,000 to £20,000 on sales 22 per cent lower at £728,000, reflecting a rationalization programme that the company says is now almost complete.

The group, which makes ladies' outerwear, disposed of some of its fashion interests in June.

The company is again passing its interim dividend. The shares gained 3p to 14p following the announcement.

The company says it will be making an announcement about its diversification plans in the near future. In October, it said it has started a feasibility study in northern Cyprus with a view to entering the poultry industry. It was also looking at other possible opportunities in agriculture.

TRAFalGAR HOUSE

Trafalgar House shareholders vote today at the group's annual meeting on a proposal to float off its Express newspapers, Morgan-Grampian Magazines and South Wales Argus newspapers into a separate company. Some see the move as prelude to selling the new company, to be called Fleet Holdings. Lord Matthews, who will remain chairman of the publishing side, sees it as springboard for expansion.

ALBION

Albion, makers and wholesalers of men's outerwear, has fallen deeper into the red, with a pretax loss of £786,000 in the year to September, compared with £161,300 last time.

The company, based in Belfast, has passed the final dividend against 0.85p gross last time. The half-way dividend was also omitted. Turnover in the period slumped to £11m against £14m.

The board says closures of some uneconomic units were carried out through the year combined with a reduction in overheads where possible.

Most of this year's loss is due to the closure of J. B. Hoyle, which was finished last September. An improved performance is expected this year as a result of the measures carried out.

cornell dresses

Cornell Dresses, which became part of Mr Asil Nasir's Polly Peck group at the end of 1980, and foreshadowed details of a diversification away from the textile industry.

ment valued at (Canadian)

\$3.2m (£1.4m).

Rio Tinto-Zinc's wholly-owned subsidiary purchased on

January 19, 1982 a further

65,000 ordinary shares of

Thos W. Ward at a price of

230p cum dividend (equivalent

to the value of RTZ's increased

cash alternative, plus the Ward

final dividend). With the 21.12

million Ward ordinary shares

previously acquired, RTZ and

the wholly-owned subsidiary

between them own 21.77 million

Ward ordinary shares (37.31 per

cent of the issued ordinary

capital).

line, from 18,130 billion

in the previous year.

The chairman did not give any

profit figure on the grounds that

data still were provisional. He

emphasized that most Fiat

operations in 1981 showed

better economic results than a

year earlier.

INTERNATIONAL



AUSTRALIA

Mass meetings of striking coal miners in New South Wales have voted against a proposal to end their action to allow talks on their pay claim to go ahead. The miners are on strike for a 20 per cent pay rise.

• Petroleum exploration in Australia is scheduled to double this year in terms of the number of wells planned. A total of 302 new wells are scheduled.

BELGIUM

Belgian unemployment in mid-January surged to a record 10.4 per cent representing 433,200 workers. The comparable rate on a year earlier was 9.3 per cent or 384,700.

• The EEC Commission has imposed an anti-dumping duty on United States Phenol. The duty follows a provisional levy imposed last July.

UNITED STATES

The United States inflation-adjusted gross national product fell at a seasonal-adjusted annual rate of \$2 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1981, after rising 1.4 per cent in the third.

MALAYSIA

Yamaha will assemble 10,000 motorcycles a month in Malaysia, up from the current 3,500 to 7,000 units a month, to cope with increased demand.

AUSTRIA

Press reports that Austria is seeking a \$1,000m (£532m) loan from Saudi Arabia are premature, Finance Ministry sources said. Mr Mohammed Al-Bakr, the Saudi Finance Minister, is visiting Austria for talks on economic relations.

INDIA

A two-day meeting of the Indo-European Economic Community Joint Commission begins in New Delhi tomorrow. It is the first since India and the EEC signed a new five-year commercial and economic cooperation agreement last June.

CANADA

December activity in Canadian manufacturing and processing industries showed a decrease from November according to a survey.

• Canadian consumer confidence turned slightly upward in the last three months of last year ending nine months of decline.

JAPAN

Japan's plans to cut non-tariff trade barriers will include an after-delivery tariff assessment system to smooth the flow of goods into the country.

Base Lending Rates					

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

PEOPLE

A Capulet to the Montague?

New York
The New York State Banking Department announced at the weekend that the Buffalo Savings Bank had come to the rescue of a second New York bank threatened with bankruptcy.

The merger will cost the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation \$30 million in a straight cash deal which allows the Buffalo—now merging with the Western New York Savings Bank having already swallowed the Union Dime several weeks ago—to become the nation's fourth largest savings bank with assets of \$5,500 million.

This is the fourth forced merger in New York State since the end of last year.

The deal brought a sigh of relief from the banking authorities who have been desperately trying to avoid a merger between one of these savings institutions and a commercial bank.

Such a union would require by law the actual closing of a bank and a transfer of assets, while the thrust of the effort to date has been to paper over the desperate condition of savings banks with the appearance of a routine, though forced, merger with a similar bank.

The authorities overlooked the monopoly implications of the bank's assumption of 32 per cent of all deposits in the New York upstate community of Buffalo in order to approve the merger. While in voluntary mergers the State can take as much as four months to deliberate on its implications, a New York State banking official admitted that the authorities were working under pressure to find a partner for the failing Western New York Savings Bank.

Prosperous savings banks are hard to come by these days. Low fixed interest rates are discouraging savers and inflation is eating away at the banks' income from low-yield, long-term mortgages and bonds.

The New York Bank for Savings, which has half a million depositors and assets of more than \$3,500m has been for sale for the past three months.

It is in deep financial trouble and is not alone. But in their quietly aggressive way, state banking authorities are avoiding an aura of panic by finding and subsidizing mergers between the dwindling number of healthy savings banks and savings and loan associations (S and Ls) — equivalent to building societies—and the growing number of failing institutions.

So hard has it been for the banking authorities to unload the New York Bank for Savings that it may yet have to be divided into more bite-size bait to match a buyer's understandably wary appetite. It now looks likely that the rescue will be sufficiently unorthodox to make banking history. The New York Bank for Savings could be the first savings bank taken over by a commercial bank (the Chase Manhattan has expressed interest on the right terms). But the New York Bank for Savings is only one of many sliding down the precipice.

In November New York State superintendent of banks Miss Muriel Siebert called on the government to establish a special commission to study the losses that had hit 69 per cent of all S and Ls in 1980 and produced a net loss to the industry in 49 states.

The erosion of the financial base of these "critics" as they are called was now a national problem, she said.

Last year was a horrifying one for the savings banks. Altogether 23 of them faced forced mergers (compared with 10 the year before); and for the first time a New York State bank had to call on the assistance of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) to work out a so-called "supervised" or forced merger.

That marriage between the

US 'building societies' are facing severe financial problems. Frank Lipsius reports

Shotgun marriages for America's savings banks



The New York Bank for Savings: deep financial trouble

Greenwich and the Metropolitan Savings Banks cost the FDIC \$485m, and with 500 more thrifts already in technical bankruptcy, or in danger of failing within the year, the federal insurance pool of \$18,000m no longer seems the comfortable cushion it once was.

If America is to do without the thrills altogether it may also have to get along with a severely constricted new-housing market which will somewhat tarnish the American dream of every working person owning his own home, a prospect which as superintendent Siebert put it "has contributed greatly to the political stability of which we Americans are particularly proud".

Ironically, the most prosperous savings banks and therefore the obvious candidates for taking over less successful ones, were the first to turn their backs on the traditional role of the thrills in providing 30-year mortgages for single-family homes.

The Jamaica Savings Bank, only one of four to show a profit in the third quarter of 1981 among New York City's 38 savings banks, was also the only one to be refused permission to open a new branch.

The state banking department came to that decision after accusing the bank of refusing to invest in poorer areas of the city, a charge which the bank denies, although its president admits that the state's usury laws had caused him to look elsewhere for more profitable lending anyway.

The Jamaica is known as a contentious and aggressive institution that progressively cut its mortgages from ten to five, to three-year terms, a move which prevented its being squeezed as interest rates went up, but also put it outside the definition superintendent Siebert gave of the role that thrills were intended to fulfill: investing in long term fixed rate residential mortgages and long-term bonds.

Praising the failed Greenwich, she commented: "It literally helped build communities. By being a good citizen, it, like many of its sister institutions, was trapped in an unprecedented interest rate squeeze."

The problem for thrills has been that unregulated money-market mutual funds offered by stock brokers have largely replaced savings accounts for the American middle-classes.

The funds' total assets

doubled in 1981 to \$190,000m while S and Ls reported a drop in net worth of \$4,300m to end the year at only \$28,000m.

The money market funds invest in short-term borrowings issued by companies as certificates of deposit and by the government as Treasury Bills. Because the minimum lot of such dealings is \$10,000, they were beyond the means of small investors until the advent of the money market funds, which invest by pooling their customers' assets.

With maturities of under 30 days, the funds can closely follow the rates available on the short-term money markets.

The New York Times summed up the growing dissatisfaction of savers with the thrills in an investment-advice column called "The Year's Worst Investments". Savings accounts headed a list that included such notable problem areas as gold which halved in value in the past year, and parking Broadways shows where less than a quarter of the openings last more than a week.

Saving accounts as "senseless" the article pointed out the sad truth that "The top interest rate at savings institutions, set by law, remains a maximum of 5% per cent".

While the thrills are at a severe disadvantage against mutual funds whose interest rates fluctuate in line with the prime rate, the bankers have tenaciously fought deregulation that would force them to increase the cost of their money when their portfolios are still stuffed with 30-year mortgages with single-digit fixed interest rates.

Instead, they got a government to establish all-savers certificates as a one-year stopgap measure. Tax exempt, and paying a yield equal to 70 per cent of one-year treasury notes, the certificates looked like a neat way for the government to subsidize the banks' desperate need for funds at lower than prime interest rates.

But interest rates played tricks on this supposed solution when declining rates at the end of 1981 brought the all-savers into single digit yields, "even though", said Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith analyst Jerry Baron, "it's a pretty good deal on after-tax comparison."

The shotgun marriages among the troubled thrills are supplanting a more orderly and much needed overhaul of banking regulations. With stockbrokers playing an increasing role as unregulated financiers, the banking community is rightly calling for a more comprehensive approach.

Business Editor

De Lorean: just a pit stop?

The De Lorean car company, which has been a political hot potato since its inception, is rapidly growing bolder still.

Its \$25,000 sports cars, which sold so well in the United States for most of last year, are piling up in dealers' yards and showrooms, unable to find buyers even at substantial discounts. Output from the Belfast factory has

been feared only a few weeks ago. The miners seem to be about to settle, as the water workers have already done, for just more than 9 per cent, compared with 13 per cent last pay round. The local authority manual workers have accepted 7 per cent, roughly the same as last year. That leaves the civil servants demanding 13 per cent, a claim dismissed by Government as "unrealistic", especially since Civil Service pay is already running above 5 per cent above the average elsewhere in the economy.

Perhaps public sector workers have learnt a lesson from last year — that high pay settlements cost jobs. Planned job losses in the Civil Service — from a complement of 740,000 in May 1979 to 630,000 by April 1984 — have been accelerated to keep within cash limits.

Council manual workers also have seen jobs disappear and more will go this year to help pay for the over-budget settlement.

Only in the more insulated monopoly side industries — forced to slash investment or put up prices to workers, to Mrs Thatcher's annoyance, feel safe from job losses. So, perhaps, the government should be thankful to have got off so lightly thus far.

Power stations Questions still

The wheels may be continuing to turn slowly towards a PWR power station at Sizewell, but the evolution of one power station a year through the 1980s seems as open to doubt as ever. What the energy authorities might want and what the government feels can be established remain two different matters; and that is before one complicates the issue further with arguments about nuclear and non-nuclear, PWRs, AGRs and fast breeders.

The CEBG, the customer, has wanted a PWR station, and has the backing of the government. Whereas the AGR is effectively an entirely British package, the PWR means buying in both the technology and some at least of the major components from the US. That has not particularly worried some of the major UK contractors Babcock, NEI and GEC since experience in a PWR contract in the UK would have given them into future contracts overseas.

The growing doubt of course, is whether the PWR (post Three Mile Island) has a rosy future in world markets in any case.

Not that a switch in emphasis back to non-nuclear fuels would necessarily prove disastrous for UK companies in this sector. They are probably competitive again in the field, while they do need, though, is a feeling of certainty both that the domestic orders, of one kind or another, are going to be there to see them through the mid and late 1980s, and that the PWR really is a goer rather than a drawing board design that will simply be leap-frogged for the fast breeder.

Earnings**Could be worse**

Yesterday's encouraging pay figures from the Department of Employment and the Confederation of British Industry, coupled with the receding threat of a miners' strike, will come as welcome news to the Government venture on the most sensible of terms in the first place.

Whether the Government will have to face up to that decision remains to be seen. Where policy takes Government into such types of investment, the public must accept that there will be a number of failures. That is not, of course, the same as saying that the Government entered into this particular venture on the most sensible of terms in the first place.

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The CEBG, the customer, has wanted a PWR station, and has the backing of the government. Whereas the AGR is effectively an entirely British package, the PWR means buying in both the technology and some at least of the major components from the US. That has not particularly worried some of the major UK contractors Babcock, NEI and GEC since experience in a PWR contract in the UK would have given them into future contracts overseas.

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Not that a switch in emphasis back to non-nuclear fuels would necessarily prove disastrous for UK companies in this sector. They are probably competitive again in the field, while they do need, though, is a feeling of certainty both that the domestic orders, of one kind or another, are going to be there to see them through the mid and late 1980s, and that the PWR really is a goer rather than a drawing board design that will simply be leap-frogged for the fast breeder.

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Into the political quagmire

PERSPECTIVE: MONOPOLIES

By Kevin Page

After more than 30 years of plodding away sedately in the background, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission has found itself thrust into the centre stage in recent months. By banning Louie's bid for House of Fraser, European Ferries' offer for Sealink and the rival bids for Royal Bank of Scotland, the commission has attracted vilification to an extent rarely witnessed in the quieter corridors of Whitehall.

In essence, the abuse question whether or not a group of middle-class professional people, accountants, union officials, academics and retired senior civil servants, should be responsible for thwarting the grand designs of entrepreneurs.

Mr Jeremy Hardie, the deputy chairman of the MMC who chaired the investigation into the bids for Royal Bank of Scotland, is only too aware of the charges that the quasi-judicial commission has been thrust too far into the political arena of late. The Fair Trading Act 1973 enables the Secretary of State to direct the commission to consider whether or not a particular merger might be expected to operate against the public interest and then to take into account any other relevant factors.

The problem is that this brief is too far-ranging.

Mr Hardie admits Section 84 of the act is widely drawn: "But we do what we are told to do and are not messes around by the Secretary of State".

However, because of the all-encompassing nature of Section 84, it is left to the commission to define what the public interest is on a case by case basis.

This approach can present difficulties. For instance in the Royal Bank report, the commission obviously had to consider the role of the Bank of England in supervising the United Kingdom banking system. The report remarked in a passage whose tone suggests some embarrassment:

"We are conscious that the scope of the considerations which arise from such a transfer (the acquisition of the Royal Bank by Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation), go much wider than the issues which we are normally required to consider in merger cases, and on which we would be guided by the previous work of the commission".

In other words, the commission's brief did not include recommendations on the public interest of the Bank of



Mr Jeremy Hardie, deputy chairman of the Monopolies Commission

which should be investigating industrial and commercial questions became embroiled in politics.

No one — except the Scottish lobby and presumably the bank — seems satisfied with the outcome.

Critics say that on the Royal Bank bids, the Government ducked the issue of what was or was not deemed to be in the public (or more clearly the national) interest and left the question to a body which did not feel itself qualified to take a view.

One commission member answers this by pointing out that where there are no rules of law, a body somewhere between the courts and the government must be responsible for making recommendations on the public interest.

Returning to the issue of the commission's role in Whitehall, Mr Hardie is a firm believer in the school of flexibility and self regulation.

"The great weakness of the American system whereby a company holding two per cent of a market could be judged to be in a monopolistic position, is that mergers are more complex.

There is something inherent in references to us which give rise to criticisms of our reports" he says with an air of inevitability. On allegations that recent reports have condemned certain people, Mr Hardie remains silent.

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Tate & Lyle 1981 'A stronger Group is emerging'

The Chairman, the Rt Hon Lord Jellicoe, reports:

- * A return to an improved quality of earnings and a more acceptable level of profit — £36.3m before tax — achieved in a very difficult economic climate.
- * A better balanced profit "mix" with our less cyclical businesses both at home and abroad showing marked improvements.
- * We propose, in conjunction with our workforce, to undertake a modernisation programme in our UK refineries.
- * Recommended increase in final dividend from 6.5p to 7.5p per unit of stock making 11.5p for the year.
- * The achievement of the objective we set ourselves three years ago to complete the re-shaping of the Group by 1981 enables us now to give our full concentration to the growth and development of the business.

Summary of Results

	1981 £ million	1980 £ million
Turnover	2,188.3	1,420.1
Profit before taxation	36.3	30.7
Ordinary Dividend	11.5p	10.5p
Earnings per £1 ordinary stock unit	37.2p	31.3p

Copies of the Annual Report for the period ended 26th September 1981 will be mailed to stockholders shortly and will be available from J E Wright, Secretary, Tate & Lyle PLC, Sugar Quay, Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6DQ.

Cricket

Uncapped Cook and Richards could go on Australian tour

From Richard Streeton
Madras, Jan 20

Graeme Cook, the reserve opening batsman, and Jack Richards, the only uncapped members of England's Test team going side in India, but both, however, have been very much in the selectors' minds for the tour to Australia which starts next October.

"There have even been hints that Cook could go on to the England captaincy if the tour established a regular Test place. This alone justifies his inclusion in this series, even though he had his 30th birthday just before the present tour began. Richards on the other hand goes to India because of his ability to come up to medium pace bowling. It underlined his natural ability which put him ahead of Baloo, Brown, Devon and Humpage who in the year since had all failed to seize their chance."

Cook's inclusion in the tour party was a surprise only in the sense that he gained the extra Test place when unexpectedly only two players were chosen. Clearly a fine all-round bowler, he had the best season of his career in 1981. He was one of only four English players to pass 1,700 runs, and, significantly, they came in summer when he was captain of Northamptonshire for the first time.

"I suppose the two factors might be linked," Cook said. "I found myself enjoying the constant involvement in the game and the captaincy, and was anxious to get off to a good start myself. After this happened the runs kept coming, though it is possible that covered wickets helped. Some people tell me I played far straighter than in the

Cook, whose first experience of leadership came the previous winter with Eastern Province in South Africa, is convinced that covered pitches have made county captains more positive about setting records than in many years past. "I know in my own case I am always prepared to lose if we have a chance to win."

The last part of captaincy is the occasional discipline of other players. "When you have played mostly with the same people for 10 seasons it is inevitable that your relationship has to alter slightly."

Referring to last September's tour of Australia, Cook said: "Lord's where I made a memorable hundred, Cook said he had been far less nervous than he had been before Northamptonshire's previous one-day final in 1979 and 1980. "As captain, you are so concerned at the prepara-

tions of the rest of the side you tend to have less time to worry about your own game."

Cook was born in Middlesbrough and like Milburn, Willey and Sykes went to Northamptonshire, where he made his mark in Durham schools before being called up to play county cricket in 1971, a year ahead of Larkins, with whom he now forms the most consistent opening partnership in the championship.

He believes Larkins is a better player than himself, or, at least that he has more flair. "Having him as a partner helps me a lot. If I am struggling I look at him and his bowling and he makes it look so easy that it helps my confidence."

Cook nominates Hadlee as the most difficult bowler he faces in county cricket, and he also has a friendly rivalry with Jackson. He thinks that the construction of the game is about right and regrets the tinkering that is going on with the one-day regulations, the fielding circle and so on. "I believe the authorities should leave the game as it is, or at least English cricket is clearly on the upgrade. We have some good batsmen, obviously, and a crop of good new fast bowlers."

Like most cricketers, Cook relaxes on the golf course, and he and his wife Judith—a sweetheart from early schooldays onwards—also enjoy camping, though the arrival of their baby daughter has not paid to this for the time being.

Next summer Cook thinks Northamptonshire will be the stronger for the return of David Steele. Steele has also given Cook a soft arm since he has been locked up from providing bat insurance if we lose players to the Tests." Cook was thinking of Lamb, and possibly Willey or Larkins being needed by England if it could not find a replacement. He also believes without their captain more often than they ever thought would be the case.

Richards was born in Penzance in 1958 and his methodical progress up cricket's ladder typifies the West Country's rise to prominence. With more emphasis put on dependability than on the spectacular, English cricket is well endowed with young wicket-keepers at the present time and Richards is quickly determined to hold off the challenge of the likes of the French, Bransford and Garrison.

As a schoolboy Richards preferred horse riding to other sports, and he was before a casual social visit to a local club aroused any real interest in cricket. He showed such promise that

the longer it lasted and the closer it became, the more the crowd's attention seemed to turn to our revolver," he said. "I was always supported by my friends, particularly by Greenidge, diving his left at short mid-wicket, the various batters battles that were being waged and the attempts of one section of the crowd to keep a balloon airborne were attracting almost as much attention as the cricket."

At an exercise in pandemonium it was a complete success. It got Australia into the final, no matter how fortuitously; it lured, from out of the woodwork, members of the Sydney Cricket Ground who had never been seen at a one-day match, and for the first time in history.

It could be argued that the Holden Royal Regatta rewards have created a race specifically

winter. That may depend on whether the Australians are winning. For the moment, the achievement of Chapman's goal seems to have won the day in the one-day competition has revived Australians after the disappointment of those incredible defeats in England last summer.

Meretricious though it may be, synthetic though it undoubtedly is, Mr Taylor has found in one-day cricket a formula that works and West Indians a formula for filling the grounds and prompting the masses to switch to Channel Nine. With great success, he has caricatured the game of cricket, and where was the seed first sown? In England, it is the answer to a question that has been asked of the French, Bransford and Garrison.

Richards himself has every intention of staying in cricket for as long as possible. Away from the game he enjoys most music and is something of a back-gammon fiend. His wife Bridget is Dutch and they have a flat in London and another home in The Netherlands.

The night it rained dollars

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Sydney, Jan 20

Mr Lynton Taylor, managing director of PBL marketing, the company which to all intents and purposes runs Australian cricket (without choosing the teams) has said what he had to say about "the game is all about". The answer is . . . "having a big crowd".

At what cost to tradition is, I think, neither here nor there. As I surveyed the scene at the Sydney Cricket Ground yesterday, with the gates closed and more than 50,000 people locked inside, Mr Taylor must have felt a rare sense of achievement.

Not only was the ground full, almost the whole of Australia had been entertained, but it turned out that beating the West Indians was a matter of life and death. Such is the power of commercial television. As salesmen behind the microphone, Mr Packer's Channel Nine has some of the most famous names in Australian cricket, plus Tony

To judge from what happened yesterday, they must have the night on their side as well. thin seconds, no more, of rainfall meant instead of wet weather for the first time, rain led the match. Had it come at any time in the preceding seven and a half hours, Australia would have failed to reach the one-day total, starting in Melbourne on Saturday, and ending on Sunday. If that had happened, it would have made them a "non-event". The "million dollars rain" it is called in one of this evening's Sydney papers.

One of the more extraordinary aspects of last night's match was

that the longer it lasted and the closer it became, the more the crowd's attention seemed to turn to our revolver," he said. "I was always supported by my friends, particularly by Greenidge, diving his left at short mid-wicket, the various batters battles that were being waged and the attempts of one section of the crowd to keep a balloon airborne were attracting almost as much attention as the cricket."

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England lose to India but stay top of the world

Wangnari, Jan 20.—India pulled off their best ever win in the women's World Cup, defeating England by 17 runs here today. After a slow start, the Indians made 178 for seven, in their 60 overs with the opener, Jyoti Khaleek, scoring an impressive 88 before she was run out in a late scramble for runs.

Miss Khaleek also played a vital role in England's dismissal of 131 in 55 overs. She made three stumpings and held two clean catches.

England never looked capable of winning after they lost two wickets with just 13 runs on the board and could only manage 101, which made 36 and Rachel Scott, who added a spirited 30, owed the necessary application. It all went to Miss Khaleek's sharp stumping.

Despite the result, England remain top with 14 points from six matches. Captain, for the first time, is the International XI, who, in the line-up, have lost all their five games.

New Zealand are third with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

Zealand are third with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are fourth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are fifth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are sixth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are seventh with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are eighth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are ninth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are tenth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are eleventh with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are twelfth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are thirteenth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are fourteenth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are fifteenth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are sixteenth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are seventeenth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are eighteenth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are nineteenth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are twentieth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are twenty-first with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are twenty-second with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are twenty-third with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are twenty-fourth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are twenty-fifth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are twenty-sixth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are twenty-seventh with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are twenty-eighth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are twenty-ninth with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are thirty with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are thirty-one with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

England are thirty-two with 10 points, five wins from four matches. The International XI, who have the line-up, have lost all their five games.

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England

Racing

Aldaniti leads 81 hopefuls on long road to Aintree

By Michael Seely

Aldaniti and Royal Mail, first and third in last year's Sun Grand National, are among the 81 entries for this year's race. In fact, eight of last season's 12 finishers are engaged, the absentees being Spartan Missile, Royal Exile, So and Sebastian V.

The future of our most exciting steeplechase still hangs in the balance. Lord Plummer, the chairman of the Horserace Committee, has said: "We are still trying to get Bill Davies to the negotiating table. But unless we obtain the increase in the levy we are asking for, nothing is certain as racing has so many other priorities beside the National."

John Aldaniti, Aldaniti's trainer, is abroad on holiday with Fred Winter. However, a stable spokesman said: "We have had Aldaniti back at Findon since the Tuesday before Christmas. He is very well and if we can get enough work in him, Aldaniti may have his first race in the Whitbread Trial Steeplechase at Ascot on February 10, the race he won last year."

As usual there are not a proportionate number of good-class horses among the entries. Two interesting possible runners are Richard Head's pair, Border Incident and Uncle Bing. Border Incident is still one of the best chasers in the country, despite his injury plagued career. And Uncle Bing's jumping when winning the Topham Trophy over

part of the National course in 1980, with John Francome in the saddle, was spectacular.

Mick O'Toole has entered Chiarullo, who was one of the easiest winners of the Queen Mother Champion Chase in 1980, although the Irish horse was subsequently disqualified in favour of Another Dolly.

Although last year's runner-up, Spartan Missile, is still on the sidelines another well-known hunter-chaser will be trying to blaze the same trail this spring. Last year, Gritter won both the Badminton and Liverpool Foxhunts, with the highly-clad jockey, Club member Dick Saunders, on board. And this time Gritter's owner-trainer, the Cotswold farmer, Frank Gilman, intends to run his pride and joy in both the Cheltenham Gold Cup and the National.

Some unusual entries engaged are: the 1979 Welsh Grand National winner, Peter Scott, and Waggoner's Walk, who won Newcastle's Elder Steeplechase and the Kim Mu Steeplechase at Cheltenham last year. The only other notable entry, apart from Aldaniti, is Rustic but the Cumbrian trainer, Gordon Richards, has entered two interesting candidates, Man Alive and Current Gold. Fred Winter's two possible runners are Rough and tumble and Roly's Ramble.

Although the weights will not be published until next Wednesday, Ladbrokes, the managers of Aintree, have already opened a



Aldaniti, the 1981 National hero, is likely to reappear at Ascot next month.

book on the race. They make Aldaniti their favourite at 14-1, followed by Cavity Hunter, King and Royal and, who are bracketed together at 20-1. The four 25-1 chances are Peter Scott, Senator MacLusky, Three To One and Waggoner's Walk.

Michael Dickinson said that Cavity Hunter was an unlikely participant and that it would be represented by him if it were to be represented by it will be Bueche Gioro.

Gifford could also land a double at Lingfield Park today, the spotlight will be focused on David Tattersall's two Dail Express Triumph Hounds, Regent and Omnipotent, who are due to run in the first and second divisions of the Keep Novices Hurdle.

Right Regent, a useful stayer on the flat, gained his first

victory under winter rules when wearing down Baron Falles at Newbury, and should have little to fear from his rivals. Right Regent is quoted at 33-1 for the big Cheltenham race, but only 16-1 is available about Omnipotent, who created a favourable impression when giving Brave Hussar such a hard fight for his money at Chepstow.

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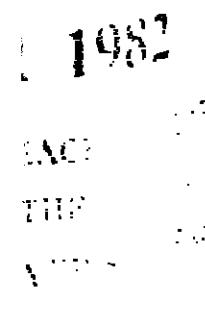
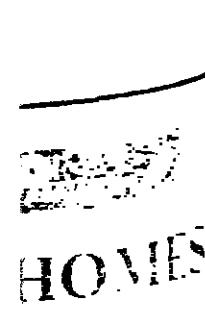
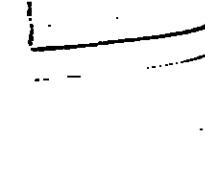
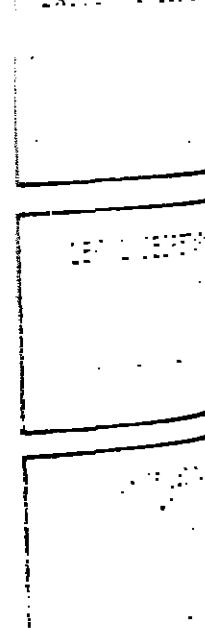
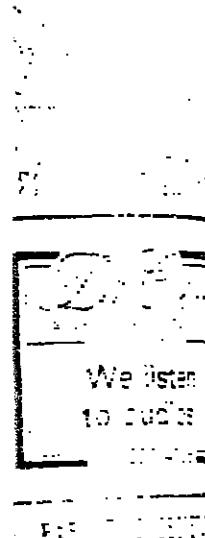
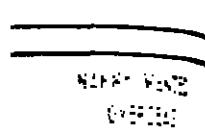
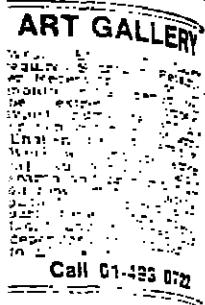
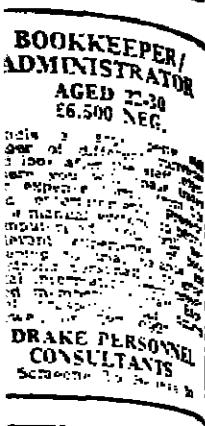
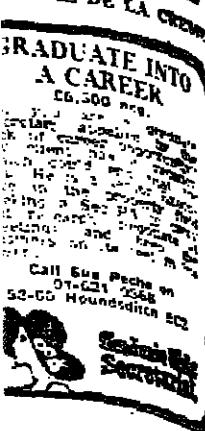
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Gifford could also land a double at Lingfield



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CACI is a leading and rapidly expanding multi-national consulting, research and analysis company. Our annual growth rate of 50% means that we are going places and need outstanding staff to help us get there.

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Nadine Hughes, CACI, Inc. - International Lincoln House, 296/302 High Holborn London WC1V 7HZ

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- 1) For Managing Director of a Project Engineering Company engaged in the development of wide range of products in a number of different countries.
- 2) For Group Publicity Manager dealing with all aspects of publicity on a world-wide basis. Good experience and educational background (O or A levels essential) plus first class secretarial skills. Salaries in the region of £6,000/£6,500 plus free lunches, season ticket loans, etc. Hours 9.15 to 5.15. Please phone (or write) for interview to Miss Gower, Mitchell Cotts Group Ltd., Cotts House, Camomile Street, London E.C.3 (01-283 1234).

PA/SECRETARY

General Manager of a large Marine Insurance Company requires experienced Personal Assistant Secretary. Age 25-35. Must be educated to 'O' level standard and have accurate shorthand and typing. The ability to work on one's own initiative and organise and communicate at all levels is essential. Legal experience and a knowledge of French would be an advantage.

The work very varied and interesting: dealing with wreck removal, collision claims, marine insurance, preparing documents for seminars, arranging courses etc. There is plenty of scope for involvement and responsibility. First class salary, 5 weeks holiday, L.V.S. etc.

Applications and C.V. to:

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London EC3N 4AL

PUBLISHING

A Secretary is required for the Circulation Director of Business Traveller magazine. Applicants should have good secretarial skills, enthusiasm for working hard and a desire to learn and become involved in all aspects of the department. Numeracy and a sense of humour are also important. We are a small company, the offices are not smart but the work is fun. Please send c.v. with a letter telling us why you wish to apply for the position, why you would be good at the job and your salary expectation. Write to Carol Wilson, Circulation Director, Business Traveller, 61 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1LA. Please mark envelope: Private and Confidential.

Senior Secs/P.A.'s

If it's a career that you are looking for, not a 'job' that lasts a few months; if it's a personal friendly service that you want, not treatment that makes you feel like a cog in a big machine; if it's expert advice you need from consultants with experience in all aspects of recruitment - we will be able to help you, particularly at the moment. If you are in your mid-twenties with excellent secretarial skills and a professional attitude to your work,

OYSTER Recruitment Consultants
1-2 Hanover Street, London W1R 9WB.
Tel: 01-629 6736

INTERNATIONAL SPORTS PROMOTION COMPANY

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Telephone Julie Hedges
01-486 7171
(No agencies)

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Small innovative Chelsea company involved in all aspects of property require intelligent, hard-working, well spoken PA/Secretary to utililise vital and responsible role. Salary £6,500 negotiable plus perks.

Call 01-351 3131
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To join M.D. of Gallop, Pop. involving political, social and economic research. You will be part of a team and have your own office. Own initiative. Salary £6,500 negotiable. Contact Merle James on 01-794 0461..

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* Unless you are applying for one of the above positions, please do not write to us.

Director General

The Independent Broadcasting Authority will soon be appointing a Director General to succeed Sir Brian Young on his retirement next November.

IBA
INDEPENDENT
BROADCASTING
AUTHORITY

Applications or suggestions for the Authority's consideration should be made by March 1st. They will be treated in strict confidence. They should be addressed, in envelopes marked 'DG appointment', to the Chairman, IBA, 70 Brompton Road, London SW3 1EY.

This position is open to men and women.

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involving political,

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You will be part of a team and

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you just don't have time

to do it all. Come and discuss

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Ratepayers say council chiefs' pay has doubled

By David Walker

Detective work by a ratepayers' group has disclosed a doubling of the salaries of some council chief officials in the two-year period from May 1979, during which the Government was consistently asking for reductions in local spending.

Salary tables compiled by the Fulham and Hammersmith Ratepayers' Association show the basic salaries of borough council officials rising by between 75 and 130 per cent between July 1, 1979, and March 31, 1981. Prices rose during the same period by about 24 per cent.

The engineering director of the Hammersmith and Fulham council, for example, received just under £12,000 in 1979 and £21,000 some 23 months later, an increase of 75 per cent. The borough's director of leisure and recreation received a rise from £3,657 to £20,210, an increase of 133 per cent.

These figures apply, broadly, to other councils. They include

an allowance for working in the capital but exclude various travel allowances.

The figures in the table printed below are not publicly available. Under special provisions of the Local Government Act 1972, council accounts are available for inspection by the public at set times of the year. Mr Arthur Blackman, a Shepherd's Bush shopkeeper and secretary of the ratepayers' group, used information supplied confidentially by a councillor together with material gathered under the Act.

The first column comes from a volume of statistics referred to by council officials as the "Rainbow" book (after the colour of its pages) which lists salaries. The second comes from accounts data supplied to the Inland Revenue.

An official at the Department of the Environment confirmed yesterday that the Government played no direct role in negotiating these salaries.

A long wait: Villagers at Watton-at-Stone (population 2,000) in Hertfordshire are not worried by the rail strike as the last train stopped there in 1939. But British Rail is to rebuild their station and by May a King's Cross-Stevenage train should be stopping at Watton—43 years late.

	1st July 1979	1st March 1981	% Increase
Chief Executive	£15,240	£26,568	74.46
Housing Director	12,114	21,222	75.19
Engineering Director	12,114	20,783	71.55
Development Planning Director	11,832	20,705	74.99
Finance Director	10,704	20,342	90.04
Leisure and Recreation Director	8,667	20,210	133.18
Social Services Director	8,202	20,002	130.38
Borough Valuer	10,704	19,620	83.03
Assistant Chief Executive	9,333	19,065	104.29
Head of Personnel	10,704	18,928	76.83
Borough Solicitor	8,715	18,928	117.19
Ass't Director of Social Services	9,231	18,752	103.14
Borough Architect	8,037	18,615	131.06

Zoo man safe, rebels say

African guerrillas holding Mr John Burlison, aged 28, the British zoologist, yesterday sent their conditions for his release to his parents in Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland.

The National Resistance movement in Mozambique ordered Mr Sidney Burlison and his wife to make sure that their cause was published in the world's press before their son would be released in a neighbouring country.

The message was received in a telex message sent through the Foreign Office's Central African department.

Mr Burlison, aged 54, an engineer who has also worked in Africa, said last night: "It is wonderful to know that John is all right. We can only pray that this demand is met and that he will be safely home soon". His son was captured five weeks ago.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

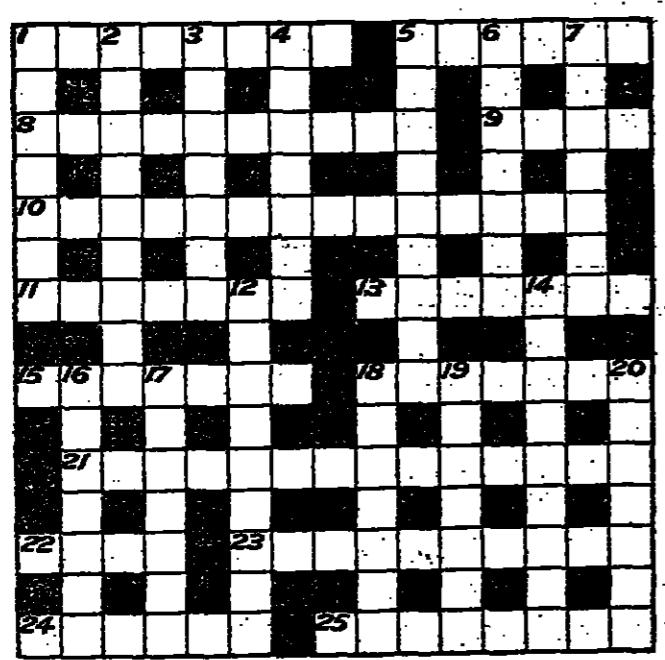
Today's events

Exhibitions
The Road to Recovery, art, handicraft and other work by patients and staff at Rampton

Hospital : Cooper Gallery, Church Street, Barnsley, 10 to 5.30; Paintings by Harold Gilman, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, 10 to 5.30.

Paintings by Jack Smith and Michael Johnson, Sue Smith and

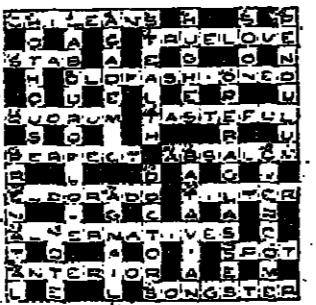
The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,735



ACROSS

- 1 Name one work (Elgar's First) after this goddess? (8)
- 5 Root, origin of armadillos? Just so (6)
- 8 Their occupants may be quickly moved to attend the theatre (10)
- 9 Miller, we hear, is Ben's lowly neighbour (4)
- 10 Old dandy, an important person for this course (8, 6)
- 11 A run on the Continent for singers? (7)
- 12 Law that classically divides a Republic? (7)
- 13 St George! He diverted the old wicker? (7)
- 14 Vehicle for a child who pushes off毫不 (7)
- 21 Shaw's title to an island, a first-class island too! (3, 3, 8)
- 22 Lines at last for the little perisher! (4)
- 23 Decorative lantern, a medical officer designed (10)
- 24 Could be grave in a manner of speaking? (6)
- 25 Arabian remedies insufficient for Lady Macbeth (8)
- DOWN
- 1 One of Macbeth's bewitching girls? (7)
- 2 Wish to toss to a Liverpudlian (9)
- 3 "He's as tall a man as any's in 'em" (7, Night) (7)
- 4 Do this as an act of contrition (7)

Solution of Puzzle No 15,734.



Travel: Rail, road, sea

Rail strike

No trains today; no overnight trains tonight. Disruption expected tomorrow, with many early trains cancelled. For times of first trains, call station inquiries, which will be manned today, or for pre-recorded messages, call 01-248 8030.

Parking

There will be no free parking in London. Parking restrictions will be enforced but there will be extra parking facilities for private vehicles in London, including areas in Hyde Park, Regent's Park, St James's Park, Battersea Park, Victoria Park, Hackney, Dalwich Park, Southwark, Elephant and Castle, University of Kent, Canterbury, Etc.

Musics

Concert, Coal Strain Quartet, University Hall, Bath, 7.30.

Concert, Northern Sinfonia of England, City Hall, Newcastle, 7.45.

Concert, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra conducted by Sir Bernard Haitink, Town Hall, Birmingham, 7.30.

Early Music Centre concert, Frans Brüggen (recorder) and Colin Tilney (harpischord), Dame Alice Harmer School, Bedford, 8.45.

The Pound

Bank
Australia \$ 1.76 1.58
Austria Sch 32.00 30.00
Belgium F 11.00 10.00
France Fr 17.18 15.88
Germany DM 4.53 4.29
Hongkong \$ 11.40 10.50
Italy Lir 248.00 235.69
Japan Yen 42.90 42.40
Malta Pounds 1.32 1.33
South Africa Rand 2.01 1.53
Spain Pta 152.00 155.00
Sweden Kr 31.04 10.40
USA \$ 1.54 1.57
UK £ 1.54 1.57
For small details, see *Financial Times*, page 10.

London: The FT Index closed down 0.1 at 345.3.

Sporting fixtures

Football: FA Cup third round replay, Hull City v. Chester, 7.30.

Racing: Meetings at Newmarket, 1.15, and Lingfield Park, 1.30.

Tennis: Kim Clijsters, Brussels, and Luxembourg, 6.30pm, Wednesday. Women's international friendly, Midlands v. West at Trentham, 2.15.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on Goodison murine on closure of British-Australian smelter at Port Pirie, South Australia.

Senate (2.30): Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Bill, committee.

House of Lords (2.30): Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Bill, committee.

Printed and Published Bill, by Dr Tony Benn, Labour.

Food: The Case, a Cover-Pot of Arrows, by Sophie Grigson, Jeffrey Archer, Cormac McCarthy, and Fred Dibnah.

The book is based on trade sales throughout the UK to 400 bookshops and 200 retail outlets through eight Hammett's bookshops and 20 others.

Postal delays

Cancellation of general and first-class letters during rail strike will start on Tuesday, yesterday and today.

Letters will be held up to 48 hours.

Anniversaries

Sophie Grigson, physiotherapist and champion of women's health, died at her home in London on January 21, 1981.

Food: The Case, a Cover-Pot of Arrows, by Sophie Grigson, Jeffrey Archer, Cormac McCarthy, and Fred Dibnah.

The book is based on trade sales throughout the UK to 400 bookshops and 200 retail outlets through eight Hammett's bookshops and 20 others.

The papers

Commenting on Reagan's first year as President, the Daily Mirror says: "He has changed from being a B-movie actor to being a B-movie president... who can do more history as well as politics. He is a real decent man who didn't go down in history."

The Washington Post says yesterday that to gain authority, Reagan will have to win more popularity.

Pre-recorded news travel information on 01-246 6932.

Postal delays

Because of Seafarers dispute, Royal Mail services to Germany, France, Belgium, Holland, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, and Switzerland will be delayed until Saturday.

British Rail services to Scandinavia, Germany, France, Belgium, Holland, and Switzerland will be delayed until Saturday.

Post offices in Scotland and Northern Ireland will be closed on Saturday.

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